

## Israel would like Haddad replacement acceptable to Beirut

By HIRSH GOODMAN  
Post Defence Correspondent

The search for a replacement for Major Sa'ad Haddad has moved into high gear, but is liable to take several weeks, according to defence sources.

Israel is making every effort to ensure that whoever replaces Haddad, who died in Marjayoun on Saturday, will be acceptable to, and if possible named by, the Lebanese government. Haddad's death is seen as an opportunity for legitimizing Haddad's forces, and incorporating them into the regular Lebanese Army as a brigade, with which Israel will have "special relations."

According to Israeli officials this would be advantageous for both Lebanon and Israel, since it will extend Lebanese sovereignty to the south, and allow the IDF to disengage itself to some degree from Southern Lebanon.

According to the sources, there are several candidates for the position, apart from Col. Elias Khail, who

was mentioned as a successor to Haddad by some news reports earlier this week. At least three senior Lebanese officers are currently candidates, but they have been opposed by the various ethnic groups in the south as being either too partisan, or not partisan enough.

Though Haddad's force of around 1,000 men under arms has some Shi'ites and Druse in its ranks, it is dominated by Maronites tending toward the rightwing of the Phalange movement, making a Shi'ite commander unacceptable. This would be the regarding a regular officer in the Lebanese Army loyal to President Amin Gemayel.

Ideally the IDF would like to see Haddad's force integrated into a regular Lebanese brigade or as a territorial force by the Lebanese government, and given a regular Lebanese Army commander. But senior defence officials are sceptical whether this goal can be attained.

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

## Six men kidnap Saudi consul as Beirut 'unusually quiet'

BEIRUT (Reuters). — Gunmen kidnaped Saudi consul Hussein Farash in West Beirut yesterday as the city enjoyed an unexpected respite from the heavy shelling which on Monday killed at least 22 people and wounded about 65 others.

Six men in two cars forced Farash's driver to stop in the seafront district of Raouche, shot and wounded his bodyguard, dragged the diplomat out of his car and took him off to an unknown destination, security sources said.

Hours after the ambush no one had claimed responsibility for the kidnapping and the security forces

said they had no immediate clues on which to work.

They said they had not yet ruled out personal motives for the abduction, which coincided with an active Saudi role in trying to mediate between Lebanon's warring factions.

Saudi targets in Lebanon were last attacked in 1981, when gunmen fired automatic weapons and rocket-propelled grenades at the embassy. Security sources at the time linked the attack to the Gulf War between Iran and Iraq.

Schools stayed closed in mainly (Continued on back page)

## Strikes, unrest throughout S. Lebanon

By MENAHEM HOROWITZ  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

METULLA. — Strikes and unrest affected parts of South Lebanon yesterday, following a call from Shi'ite leaders to "resist the Israeli occupation." In Sidon, Nabatiya and the adjacent areas there were commercial strikes affecting most of the shops, tire-burning on the roads and stones thrown at IDF patrols.

The Shi'ite call came in response to the IDF's recent uprooting of roadside orchards which have been used as cover for attacks on IDF troops.

Also yesterday, a UNIFIL unit discovered a large explosive device by the side of a road some 10 kilometres south of Tyre. It was dismantled by IDF sappers without casualties or damage.

## Sharon: I was abroad when Beirut bombed

TEL AVIV (Itim). — Minister without Portfolio Ariel Sharon said last night that he had not been responsible for bombing Beirut and mobilizing the reserve prior to the Lebanon war. The former defence minister said that, despite the fact that he had been saddled with responsibility for that war, he had been out of the country when the fateful decisions were made.

Speaking to a meeting of Likud trade unionists, Sharon said that, despite this, he still took responsibility for government decisions. He was referring to public dispute between cabinet ministers which he said harmed the party. Sharon called for the unification of the Likud bloc into one party.

Sharon said that this was the best answer to what he called "the option of treachery."

## Man held for injecting kerosene in murder bid

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — A 34-year-old man whose marriage proposal was rejected has been arrested on suspicion of drugging his girlfriend and injecting her with kerosene in an attempt to kill her. The suspect's wife died three years ago of similar causes, and police are investigating whether he murdered his wife in the same way.

The investigation began some two months ago when a 21-year-old Holon resident was admitted to Wolfson Hospital suffering from festering abscesses. Traces of kerosene were found in her body.

Soon afterwards her legs became paralysed and she was transferred to Sheba Hospital at Tel Hashomer.

A doctor at Wolfson Hospital,



There's plenty of time to read the newspaper in the Finance Ministry's records office during yesterday's three-hour civil service strike. (Yossi Zamir, Scoop 80)

## Public sector pay talks to resume

Jerusalem Post Staff

Talks between the government and the Histadrut on compensation for erosion of public sector employees' wages are expected to resume today following the Ministerial Economic Committee's decision yesterday to approve a IS5,000 monthly pay raise for all public sector workers.

The committee expressed support for the Treasury's stand in the negotiations and authorized Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orgad to continue the talks.

The Histadrut, however, has already demanded that the pay increment be higher for workers with seniority — a demand which had earlier led to the breakdown of talks.

Speaking to members of the Jerusalem branch of Labour Party last night, Yisrael Kessar, head of the Histadrut's trade union department, said the labour federation would not sign the 1984-1986 wage agreements unless the government

undertakes to protect the purchasing power of a worker's pay.

The purchasing power of a civil servant's pay cheque in the last quarter of 1983 lagged by 19.2 per cent behind its buying power in the preceding quarter. The head of the Treasury's wage division, Hillel Dudai, admitted this to reporters in Jerusalem yesterday, as government employees kept up their pressure for

more wage adjustments. (See story page 2)

Dudai added that the drop in buying power for all workers in the country was 14.7 per cent.

The civil servants also came out on bottom in a comparison of pay during the final three months of last year with the same period a year earlier: here it dropped by 11.7 per cent. (Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)

## Orgad: Steps will help payments balance

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orgad yesterday briefed the Knesset Finance Committee on the new foreign currency restrictions, promulgated on Monday. Cohen-Orgad explained that the steps were designed to improve the country's balance of payments situation and to correct the absurd situation whereby Israeli citizens invested in foreign securities. It was hoped that the new measures would encourage people to invest in the local economy.

MK Dan Tichon (Liberal) commented that the average amount taken out of the country by Israelis going abroad was \$1,100. Therefore he did not see the reason for implementing the \$2,000 limitation at a time when the tendency in the world was to liberalize the movement of currency. The finance minister noted that this limitation was still liberal, when compared to several western countries.

Cohen-Orgad again stressed that the government would not touch the private savings schemes.

## Tat-Aluf Ilya quits over 'corrupt practices'

By DAVID RICHARDSON  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Judea and Samaria Civil Administration head Tat-Aluf Shlomo Ilya has resigned, following a military police investigation into various allegations of corruption, the Defence Ministry spokesman confirmed last night.

The resignation follows a meeting yesterday between Ilya and Defence Minister Moshe Arens in which Ilya was asked to submit his resignation, in the light of the ongoing investigation which was reported in *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday. Chief of Staff Moshe

Levy was also involved in the decision since Ilya is still a serving army officer.

According to the Defence Ministry announcement the military police are investigating allegations that Ilya had a woman soldier transferred from her unit to his bureau contrary to standing procedures and allowed her to be absent from duty for several weeks; used army property for non-military purposes; had a local resident carry out work at his home for payment; and bought produce from residents of Judea and Samaria contrary to standing orders.

The IDF judge advocate-general will draft an opinion on the investigation as soon as possible.

Ilya, a former senior military intelligence officer, was appointed to the post of head of the civil administration in January 1982, following the resignation of the first head, Prof. Menahem Milson. He was successful in integrating the civil administration with the military command structure in the area.

He will be temporarily replaced by his deputy Aluf-Mishne Freddy Zach.

## Poverty furore spurs challenge to government

By ASHER WALLFISH  
and SARAH HONIG  
Jerusalem Post Reporters

The Alignment reacted swiftly yesterday to a "bombshell" report on growing poverty in Israel since the Likud took office, and decided to move a motion of no-confidence in the government. The motion, decided on by the Alignment Knesset faction, will be brought up at the Knesset next week.

The National Insurance Institute's report, released on Monday night, said there were 500,000 Israelis living below the poverty line in 1982.

In the wake of the Alignment move, Tami increased its pressure on the government by refusing to commit itself to opposing the no-confidence motion. Deputy Welfare Minister Ben-Zion Rubin asserted last night that Tami is now "on the horns of a great dilemma. It is hard to predict what our decision will be."

During the faction discussion prior to the decision to table the motion, Mapam's Victor Shemtov asked in a half-serious, half-jocular vein: "What do we do if the government really falls in the no-confidence debate?"

In the same spirit, Labour leader Shimon Peres replied to Shemtov: "We solve Mapam's problem of objecting to an alternative government."

(In fact, the fall of the government on a no-confidence vote brings about its resignation, but not necessarily new elections.)

Mapam rejects the idea of the Alignment heading an alternative government and advocates early elections. This emerged at a meeting on Monday between the Mapam wing of the Alignment Knesset faction, and a delegation of Peace Now leaders headed by Tsali Reshev.

MK Eliezer Granot said that an alternative government now would be a sure recipe for electoral disaster when elections finally come around. Imri Ron said that an alternative government would be paralyzed and blackmailed by Agudat Israel.

Rubin said Tami's position might be clarified today when the party's Knesset members are due to confer with Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orgad to hear details of his economic programme.

Tami said that while it is satisfied that the Labour and Social Affairs Ministry has escaped drastic budget (Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)

## Herzog off to Africa 'with a heavy heart'

"I leave for Africa with a heavy heart in light of the domestic problems now confronting us," President Chaim Herzog said last night on the eve of his departure for a state visit to Zaire and Liberia. The president and Mrs. Herzog will be in Africa for eight days.

Speaking over Israel Radio, the president said that "despite all our problems, life must go on, as must the efforts to create diplomatic links with our friends in the Third World." (Itim)

## Telephone and postal fees rise steeply

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Sharp increases in telephone and postal rates were approved by the Knesset Finance Committee yesterday. But the body turned down an Energy Ministry request for a 14 per cent hike in electricity rates retroactive to this month.

When committee member Abraham Melamed (National Religious Party) abstained in the vote, the result was a 10-10 tie, which meant the request was automatically rejected.

Some of the new phone and

postal rates (with the old fees in brackets) are:

Each telephone message unit, IS4.65 (IS3.10); monthly service charge, IS441 (IS294); phone installation fee, IS18,500 (IS12,300); domestic letter, IS5 (IS4.50).

Detailed rate schedules will be posted in all post offices, which are expected to re-open this morning.

With postal rates rising by about 18 per cent, and phone rates by more than 36 per cent, the increases are expected to add half of a per cent to the Consumer Price Index.

## NEWS ANALYSIS/Charles Hoffman

## Slow tax bracket adjustment causing more poverty

The dramatic announcement by the National Insurance Institute that there are 500,000 people in Israel living in poverty was not the "real news" to emerge with Mon-

day night's publication of the NII annual report for 1982.

The figure of 500,000 people with incomes below the poverty line has been known for some time, and has appeared in NII publications for the last several years.

The most important revelation in the report was that the failure to update income tax brackets fast enough to keep up with inflation has pushed significant numbers of working families into poverty since 1977.

The poverty line now stands at IS14,000 for an individual, and IS4,800 for a family of four. The line is arbitrarily defined as the mid-point between the highest and the lowest incomes in the economy. Another rough definition of the poverty line is at 20 per cent or below the average wage, which this month is estimated to be about IS70,000. But the poverty line used by the NII is relative and does not reflect an absolute level of need or distress. Thus, the report notes that someone defined as "poor" in 1982 might have had the same standard of living 10 years ago, only then he may not have been considered poor.

The report found that a larger percentage of families with children (as opposed to couples) have been falling below the poverty line in the

last three years. Among families with four or more children, 5.1 per cent were poor in 1977, while 16 per cent had fallen into this category by 1982.

About one-fifth of all one-parent families, which are mostly divorced or widowed mothers with young children, are in poverty.

Among all families, the percentage of those in poverty grew between 1981 and 1982 from 7.8 per cent to 8.1 per cent.

The growth in poverty since 1977 is due to the erosion of the value of child allowances — which has decreased by 50 per cent since then — and by the failure of the govern-

ment to adjust tax brackets fast enough.

The report found that many working families have been pushed into poverty by a contradictory policy: what the government gives in child allowances it takes back by way of higher income taxes.

The figure of 500,000 people is made up of 200,000 members of working families and 300,000 widows, aged, and disabled, for whom NII benefits are their only income. The benefit level for the latter groups is pegged around the poverty line, so they are by definition in this category.

## NII spokesman quits in flap on report

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The spokesman of the National Insurance Institute, Dov Kol, has resigned because of the confusion created on Monday night when the NII annual report for 1982 was released at the last minute to the press.

Kol, who apologized to the journalists who cover the NII, requested NII director Danny Azriel to transfer him to another post in the institute. Notification of the report's release was given only to the television's social welfare reporter, who was also given an exclusive interview with Azriel. Copies of the report were sent late Monday night to the newspapers, so that several morning papers did not print the story.

One version of the events circulating in Jerusalem is that the NII delayed releasing the report to prevent the radio from getting the story before it was broadcast on TV. But the radio did get hold of the report and "scooped" its electronic rival.

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## The weather at major Swissair destinations

17.1.1984	MIN	MAX	WIND	SEA
AMSTERDAM	3	29	6-43	Cloudy
BRUSSELS	2	28	4-39	Clear
BUEENOS AIRES	23	23	34-83	Cloudy
CHICAGO	21	8	18	Cloudy
COPIENHAGEN	1	34	4-39	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	8	43	6-43	Cloudy
GENEVA	1	34	7-45	Cloudy
HONG KONG	16	27	10-50	Cloudy
HOANG KONG	16	27	10-50	Cloudy
HOANG KONG	16	27	10-50	Cloudy
LONDON	5	41	13-55	Cloudy
MADRID	4	39	8-43	Cloudy
MONTREAL	2	28	11-52	Clear
MUNICH	2	28	11-52	Clear
PARIS	12	10	18	Snow
PRIO DE JANEIRO	22	27	10-50	Clear
SAO PAULO	23	23	34-83	Cloudy
STOCKHOLM	2	28	11-52	Clear
TOKYO	2	28	11-52	Clear
TORONTO	16	3	9-18	Cloudy
ZURICH	2	28	7-45	Cloudy

## THE WEATHER

Forecast: Showers accompanied by strong winds. Snow in Upper Galilee and Golan Heights.

	Yesterday's Humidity	Yesterday's Wind-Mph	Today's Max
Jerusalem	75	6-12	6
Covent	47	6-10	9
Nahariya	-	8-13	13
Safed	49	6-7	5
Haifa Port	100	13-16	13
Theressia	91	9-15	14
Marathon	91	- 13-9	-
Afula	79	10-17	13
Shimon	88	9-13	8
Tel Aviv	64	13-16	12
B.C. Airport	78	12-16	12
Jericho	87	11-21	15
Cairo	80	10-17	14
Beersheba	47	12-16	14
Ulat	-	(0-20)	18

## SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir yesterday met with a delegation of Jewish writers from Spain and Latin America who arrived in Israel on Monday as guests of the Central Institute for Israeli-Latin American Cultural Relations.

A visiting delegation of Australian Labour parliamentarians yesterday toured Tel Aviv's Neve Golan suburb, which is linked with Australia under Project Renewal.

Captain Rusty Whitby, commander of the USS Trenton and Commander Tod Wagner of the USS Barnstable County, both Sixth Fleet landing ships in Haifa for a five-day visit, paid a courtesy call on Mayor Arye Gurel yesterday. They were accompanied by the assistant O.S. naval attaché Cdr. Ronald Wilcox.

Professor Nahum Keidar of the Hebrew University will speak on "Genetics and Vegetative Cultivation" at the Haifa Rotary Club, Nof Hotel, at 1 p.m. today.

Zeev Hymowitz, director of the Joint Distribution Committee in Israel, will speak on "The Joint in its 70th Year of Service to the Jewish People" at the weekly meeting of Jerusalem Rotary Club at 1 p.m. today in the YMCA.

## Ophthalmic surgeon Friedman-Gutman, 56

HAIFA. — Veteran ophthalmic surgeon Dr. Anna Friedman-Gutman has died here at age 56. She collapsed while examining a patient and died of a burst artery. Friedman-Gutman was born in Rumania, survived Auschwitz and studied in Vienna before immigrating in 1952. She is survived by her husband and a sister.

## Shimon Klein, botanist

Shimon Klein, 61, professor of botany at the Hebrew University was buried yesterday in Jerusalem. He was among the pioneers in the use of the electron microscope for botanical research. Born in Vienna in 1922, Klein reached this country in 1948 after being interned by the British on Cyprus for attempting to immigrate here the year before. He joined the university's staff in 1953. Most recently, he was deputy director of the Institute of Life Sciences, a position he was forced to leave because of illness. He is survived by his widow, a son and daughter.

## Eilat mayor: Extend railway to the city

EILAT. — The advantages of extending 170 kilometres of railway track to Eilat at a cost of \$252 million was outlined at lunch yesterday at the Aviya Sonesta Hotel by Eilat Mayor Rafi Hochman to the International Israel Bond Leadership Conference, a spokesman said.

## Two pedestrians killed

BEERSHEBA. — A 53-year-old woman pedestrian, hit by a car in Beersheba on Monday night, has died of her injuries at the Soroka Hospital here. Police would not give details regarding either the victim's identity or that of the car's driver, though they said they have the number of the vehicle. An 88-year-old woman was run over and killed by a bus while she was crossing the street in Jerusalem's Kiryat Hayovel quarter last night. Her name has not yet been released for publication. It is reported.

## HOME NEWS

## Jews now building in Moslem Quarter

By MICHAEL EILAN  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Atara Leyoshna Organization has already started construction in buildings it controls to substantially increase the Jewish population in the Moslem Quarter of Jerusalem's Old City. The Jerusalem Post has learned.

According to internal Atara Leyoshna documents, the organization, a non-profit association, plans to spend \$5,000 million at today's prices in building flats in six buildings it controls in the Moslem quarter.

The organization plans to refurbish and build 24 flats in these six buildings. Some families have already moved into a few of these flats, and work has started in other buildings.

The 24 flats the association wants to refurbish in the buildings under its control are in addition to 28 apartments it would like to build on a church-owned plot near Herod's Gate. The organization was originally formed to regain control of property owned by Jews prior to the War of Independence, but has now decided to try to buy non-Jewish property as well.

The Atara Leyoshna construction

plans cover over 2,200 square metres of floor space. In addition to the 24 flats, the organization plans to build two hostels for yeshiva students, a synagogue and several study halls.

The six houses dealt with in the Atara Leyoshna plans are Hatzar Hazei Olam (the site of the Birkat Avraham yeshiva) Beit Warsaw, Beit Hazon, Beit Hamaravim, Hatzar Diskin, and Hatzar Kolei Galicia.

Atara Leyoshna has stated, in a document submitted to the Supreme Court, that it regards the Birkat Avraham yeshiva as an illegal squatter on property that it has on a key-money basis from the Hazei Olam yeshiva.

Atara Leyoshna has tried to keep a low profile during the last three years while it has acquired control over property in the Moslem Quarter. None of the members of its board were willing to comment on buildings that had been acquired, and all said that publicity might harm their efforts.

Jerusalem City Hall officials have been highly critical of the various organizations that seek to settle Jews in the Moslem Quarter, saying that such a step would increase ten-

sion in the city — especially since many of the buildings taken over by Jews are close to the Temple Mount.

All of the six buildings were formerly owned by Jews. Atara Leyoshna gained possession of these buildings either by buying them, renting them for key money from various religious institutions or by getting the right to settle there from the Custodian of Absentee Property.

Officials from the custodian's office seem to work in close cooperation with Atara Leyoshna and the other bodies who have acquired over 15 buildings in the Moslem quarter.

## Cabinet will reconsider farmers' VAT

Jerusalem Post Staff

The question of levying value added tax on agricultural produce will apparently have to be discussed again by the cabinet. This follows sharp exchanges between Treasury and Agriculture Ministry representatives in the Ministerial Economic Committee.

The Treasury believes that the imposition of VAT on the farmers will make them pay fair taxes and bring in \$5.5 billion to the government. The Agriculture Ministry is certain that it will be almost impossible to collect the tax and estimates that the actual income for the government will be less than a third of Treasury estimate.

Additional problems concern that West Bank farmers and the effect of this VAT on the consumer price index.

Amiel Uliel secretary of the Vegetable Growers Organization told The Jerusalem Post, that imposing VAT would increase unrest in the economy. He said that the whole farming community in Israel is opposed to this tax. He disclosed that the farmers and marketing organizations met some time ago and prepared a plan of action in case such a law is enforced.

According to this plan all agricultural produce will be withheld from the market.

## PUBLIC

(Continued from Page One)

cent, while all workers in the country suffered an erosion of 6 per cent.

Dudai said that an \$5,000 monthly wage increment plus the cost-of-living bonus due in January's pay cheques "should bring 'real wages' back up to their average during 1983."

Asked for a breakdown of current wage levels among government employees, Dudai gave the following figures, with the gross, pre-tax wages listed, including all extras such as car and telephone allowances: 4.7 per cent earn between \$20,000 and \$30,000 per month; 34.6 per cent, \$30,000-\$50,000; 27.3 per cent, \$50,000-\$70,000; 20.1 per cent, \$70,000-\$100,000; 11.8 per cent, \$100,000-\$150,000; and 1.5 per cent more than \$150,000 per month.

## POVERTY

(Continued from Page One)

cuts, it wants to know what else Cohen-Orad has in mind. It will demand concessions for the have-nots and greater sacrifices from the well-to-do.

The only voice in the Alignment faction, against the no-confidence proposal came from Labour's Aharon Nahmias who said the poverty line bombshell was really a Tami publicity gimmick. He said the motion would make the coalition close its ranks and would not advance the Alignment's cause.

The Democratic Front for Peace and Equality faction also decided to table a no-confidence motion and the Shinui faction said it would probably decide today to do the same.

## Meshel wants higher child allowances

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Histadrut Secretary-General Yeroham Meshel said yesterday that child allowances must be raised and legislation setting a minimum wage passed in order to combat poverty in Israel.

In a statement following the publication by the National Insurance Institute of data showing that half a million Israelis lived "below the poverty line," Meshel said the minimum wage should be half the average wage in the economy.

(The NII report defines the poor as those whose income is no more than \$14,000 for an individual and \$44,800 for a family of four. The average wage is currently estimated at \$70,000.)

Meshel also said that people earning less than \$50,000 a month should be placed in a special 15 per cent income tax bracket. At present the lowest tax bracket is 25 per cent.

Meshel noted that child allowances were 5 per cent of the average wage in 1975 but only 2.7 per cent last year. This drop must be corrected, he said.

In a series of proposals to be presented to the Histadrut Central Committee tomorrow, Meshel demands monthly updating of National Insurance allowances, minimum pay levels, income tax brackets and tax credit points.

In the Knesset, yesterday, Social Affairs Committee chairman Menahem Porush criticized the National Insurance Institute sharply for not saying a word to his committee about the data.

Porush said: "Officials of the Institute appear in my committee almost daily. A few hours before Israel TV gave the story, NII people were with us as well."

He said: "The report as it was published can only encourage one development: emigration."

Shinui MK Mordechai Virshubski, demanding an urgent debate on the institute's data, said the fault lies solely with the Likud government's social and economic policies over the past five years.

Likud MK Avraham Hirschsohn, who serves as coalition whip inside the Social Affairs Committee, charged that the institute staffers "treat us with contempt."

Two Alignment MKs, Shoshana Arbelli-Almosino and Jacques Amir, each demanded urgent debates on the bombshell, said: "The income gap has been widened by the Likud and it has left a black mark on Israeli society."

## Israel warns Bonn against arms sales to Saudi Arabia

BONN (Reuters). — The Israeli ambassador to Bonn yesterday issued a stern warning to West Germany not to sell arms to Saudi Arabia.

In an interview with Reuters a week before Chancellor Helmut Kohl starts an official visit to Israel, Ambassador Yitzhak Ben-Ari said such sales could produce unforeseen problems for Bonn.

During a Mideast tour last summer, Kohl told Saudi leaders he would not allow the sale of high-powered Leopard-2 battle tanks — the deal most feared by the Israelis.

But he said he was ready to offer more defensive weapons, such as the Gepard anti-aircraft tank.

Ben-Ari said Israel would not be bought off by economic compensation for West German arms sales to Saudi Arabia.

He expressed doubt that the Saudis wanted the weapons for defensive purposes and said past West German arms deliveries had turned up all over the Middle East, including a whole series of small calibre weapons in Lebanon.

However, Ben-Ari said that in no way did Israel want to obstruct good West German relations with the Arab countries.

## Postmen back to work, other strikes continue

Jerusalem Post Staff

The postal workers return to work this morning — at least for the time being — but the railway employees are continuing with their strike. Sixty thousand civil servants staged a partial strike yesterday and in the Agriculture Ministry the partial strike continued. In another development local municipalities decided not to pay salaries.

**Postal Workers:**

The country's 4,500 postal workers end their three-day strike this morning, even though their wage demands have not been met.

These are rumours that the workers — among the lowest paid in the civil service — will apply various sanctions today, despite their return to the job. They may still decide to strike again.

An average of 1.5 million pieces of mail are sent through the postal system every day and within two days, the pileup of mail should be considerable, requiring overtime work by the postal employees.

**Railway workers:**

The railway workers are continuing their strike which goes into its fourth day today. According to the workers committee, no negotiations are taking place.

**Agriculture Ministry:**

Ministry of Agriculture employees are continuing their partial strike. They say it will continue until the Civil Service Commission starts negotiating with them on reorganization and agrees to freeze the plan to fire 160 tenured workers.

**Civil Servants:**

Some 60,000 civil servants started work yesterday at 11 a.m. instead of 7.30. Israel Radio was off the air ex-

cept for its hourly news broadcasts and people were unable to receive government permits or other services.

The three-and-a-half hour stoppage was over the union's demand for an increase to compensate workers for the recent erosion in their pay.

In negotiations on Monday the government and the Histadrut had agreed that pay should be increased by \$55,000 a month until March 31 when the current wage agreement expires. But the talks ended when the government rejected the Histadrut's additional demand for seniority pay increases.

**Local Authorities:**

Local authorities throughout the country will not pay their employees starting next month. This was decided at a meeting of the emergency committee of local authorities in Tel Aviv yesterday. The meeting resolved that local councils should stop taking bank loans, which means they will not have the money to pay wages. They will also stop transferring money to Income Tax and National Insurance.

The emergency committee is to meet with Finance Minister Yoni Cohen-Orad and Interior Minister Yosef Burg on Friday, when they will tell the ministers that the local councils are on the point of collapse.

The local authority employees have already declared a labour dispute and will be free to strike at the end of the month. (See: In the Knesset) This item was compiled with reports from Judy Siegel, Yitzhak Oked and Joshua Brilliant.

## Peres: Economic change requires new government

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Labour Party chairman Shimon Peres said yesterday that structural changes were required in the country's economy and a new government must make them. Addressing heads of Histadrut-owned enterprises here, Peres maintained people who had once boomed him were beginning to listen.

Speaking to the Hevrat Haovdim directors, the Labour leader said the many "islands" of advanced technology in the economy must be expanded. He said he had reports indicating the public had some \$30b. Peres suggested people be encouraged to invest the money in developing the domestic economy. But such investments required

public confidence in the government, which he said the Likud government did not merit.

Peres said that during its 6½ years in office, the Likud had failed to launch development projects which would provide jobs for 400,000 young people who joined the labour market during those years.

The government's squandering of money had resulted in a 27 per cent increase in the standard of living during the past three years, though the gross national product rose by only 9 per cent.

The Alignment leader also advocated government subsidizing of industrial exports, which he argued would be better than using the same money to pay the unemployed.

## Beersheba hospital to start in vitro fertilizations

Jerusalem Post Reporter

BEERSHEBA. — Soroka Hospital here has just been granted a licence from the Health Ministry to perform fertilizations outside the womb.

Prof. Vaclav Insler, head of the hospital's unit of obstetrics and gynecology told reporters yesterday that the treatment is successful in certain cases of infertility and that some 100 babies have been born with the help of this procedure

throughout the world.

"We have 40 women on our waiting list, and once we begin our operations, in a week or two, the number will no doubt increase," he said.

Because the hospital is run by Kupat Holim Clalit, Insler said, it is possible that the treatment will be free for members. At any rate, he noted, "whatever the price, it is still cheaper than absorbing a new immigrant."

## IN THE KNESSET/Asher Wallfish and Aryeh Rubinstein

## Warning sounded on danger to Israeli democracy

Warnings that Israeli parliamentary democracy cannot be taken for granted were expressed yesterday in the Knesset's debate on its own functions and performance. The debate was held on the occasion of the Knesset's 35th birthday which actually falls tomorrow, Tu B'Shvat.

Speaker Menahem Savidov, who opened the discussion, noted that most of the leaders who played a part in the renewal of Israeli independence are pained by the deterioration of standards and values in our society.

Aharon Harel (Alignment) said the Knesset was ignoring the threat of collapse of the democratic system in Israel. The activities of the Terror Against Terror movement should have spurred MKs to go to the schools and to the youth movements to talk about its dangers.

Yehuda Ben-Meir (National Religious Party) said that the real danger to Israeli democracy lies in the increasingly negative image of the Knesset.

A dissenting view was that of Benny Shalita (Likud-Liberals), who likened the "democracy is in danger" warning to the boy who cried wolf.

Nahman Raz (Alignment-Labour) said that the empty seats in the House aroused the disgust of the public, and so did the behaviour of

MKs who "dance to the tune of the media."

Yossi Sarid (Alignment) belittled discussion of matters like the salary and immunity of MKs or their attendance at sessions or committees. The real question was the Knesset's influence on matters of life and death, he said.

Mordechai Virshubski (Shinui) said there is a connection between "the unimportant matters" such as attendance, rules of ethics, and moral leadership in general, on the one hand, and the Knesset's image, on the other.

Shulamit Aloni said that what was really important was that the Knesset lay down for the government, for itself, and for the public "universal norms of what may and may not be done."

**Rising violence in schools**

Rav-Pakad Ella Kahan, head of the police juvenile delinquency division, said yesterday that while violence is on the increase in the schools, the number of complaints to the police about hooliganism, vandalism and assault, falls far behind.

At a meeting of the Knesset Education Committee devoted to violence in schools, Kahan said: "Firm measures must be taken forthwith against vandalism and

drug abuse in the schools. There has been too much wavering. The principals must report every single case of violence to the police."

Committee chairman Ora Namir, who agreed with the senior police official, said: "The conspiracy of silence must come to an end now. The wish of the schools to protect their good name, and keep things dark, is no excuse and no justification."

Shoshana Bayer, chairman of the Secondary School Teachers Association, said: "Teachers and principals are scared to go to the police. The teachers are defenceless against the physical and verbal violence of the pupils and their parents."

Yehudit Tyroler, principal of Nahshonim school in Bat Yam, said: "We have pupils who were caught stealing rifles and selling them to Arabs. But they were never punished and they are still at the school."

**Local authorities' strains**

Twenty local authorities are in very serious financial condition, the Knesset Interior Committee heard yesterday from Haim Kubersky, director-general of the Interior Ministry.

"The government is well aware that it must help these local

authorities, and the Interior Ministry hopes the Treasury will understand and will help."

"However, some of these authorities are in dire straits because of financial mismanagement," Kubersky said.

Kubersky's statement that the cumulative deficit of all the local authorities totalled \$4.5 billion was rejected by the representatives of the local authorities who put the figure between four and five times higher. They blamed the government for withholding financial transfers so that the authorities had no choice but to run deeply into debt.

**Bank shares probe**

Attorney-General Yitzhak Zamir said yesterday that the ongoing probe of the bank shares crash to determine whether any criminal offences were involved was "not in itself sufficient. Hence, he had proposed a broader study so that the public could learn just what caused the collapse."

Zamir, who spoke in the Knesset Law Committee, drew the approval of all its members.

The inquiry recommended by Zamir and accepted by the committee will not be a state commission, but a body to be set up by the government as "an independent examining committee."

ברוך דיין מנחם

In sadness, we announce the sudden passing of our beloved wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother

**LEA SCHREIBER**

on January 17, 1984.

The funeral will leave at 5.30 p.m. today, January 18, 1984, from the Municipal Funeral Parlour, Shamgar St., Jerusalem, for the Mount of Olives.

Forever mourned by

Her husband: Reverend Samuel Schreiber, Jerusalem

Children: Mrs. Marlene Briskin, Montreal, Canada

Marvin Schreiber, Chicago

Mrs. Molly Sherman, Ottawa, Canada

Mrs. Riva Freedman, Jerusalem

and by her daughter-in-law, sons-in-law, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren

Shiva at 7 Diskin St., Apt 143, Jerusalem.

Shaharit 7.00 a.m., Mincha/Masriv 4.30 p.m.

On the thirtieth day after the passing of our dear

**DANIEL RUBIN** ז"ל

son of Reb Shalom Rubin ז"ל

there will be a memorial service tomorrow, Thursday, January 19, 1984, at 2.30 p.m. in the Old Cemetery, Hof Hacarmel, Haifa.

Those who cherish his memory will meet at the cemetery gate.

Mother, Haya Rubin  
Wife, Heddi Rubin  
Son, Binyamin Rubin  
Sister, Edna Rubin  
Brother, Amihai Rubin, and family

With deep sorrow we announce the passing of our dear mother, grandmother and great-grandmother

**MARY ARONOWSKY** ז"ה



# Manufacturers blame chain stores for high prices

**BY YITZHAK OKED**  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

**TEL AVIV** — The chains of retail stores and supermarkets are partially to blame for the high prices of food and textile products, David Mosevics, managing director of Elite and chairman of the food division of the Manufacturers Association, told a press conference here yesterday.

Manufacturers accused the country's retail chains of squeezing profits both from the manufacturers and from the customers.

They claimed that all over the world chains sell products to customers at reduced prices, and in Israel it is just the opposite.

The manufacturers' main complaint concerned the terms of credit they give to the chains. For food products 60 days credit is given, while for textile products it sometimes reaches 110 days, not index-linked. With textile products, the chains are allowed to return unsold stock to manufacturers at the end of this period.

The speakers admitted that they themselves were partially responsible for the present situation because they had agreed to such credit terms. Now they want to change the terms but the chains are not willing to shorten the credit period.

Shmuel Dror, managing director of the National Brewery, said the supermarkets are putting pressure on his company to stop production of malt beer and Nesher beer because of the low price and low profit from

these items. "The supermarkets prefer to deal with items that are higher priced and bring in higher profits."

Dror also claimed that supermarkets are against changing from disposable to returnable Maccabee beer bottles. He said the price of the beer could come down at least 33 per cent if this was done.

A supermarket official told *The Jerusalem Post*, however, that the supermarkets are not opposing this change but customers are. Customers prefer not to "shlep" the bottles back to the supermarket, he said.

The manufacturers said that they do not want to harm the retail chains. If the chains do not agree to shorten the credit period, however, manufacturers will open outlets selling directly to the consumer, cutting prices by up to 40 per cent.

Shay Mayer, managing director of Shalom Stores (Kol Bo Shalom) told *The Post*, however, that most manufacturers already have outlets selling directly to the consumer.

Yehuda Cedar, general secretary of the Co-op supermarket chain, said that if manufacturers tried selling to the public, they would realize that it is not so easy to sell products. He said he does not believe Israelis would go out of their way to buy direct from the manufacturer, when they can walk into any supermarket and buy all the commodities they need in one store.

Shmuel Eyal, managing director of the Hamashbir Lazarchan chain of department stores, yesterday called on those with complaints against his chain to speak directly to

him. He said he does not receive 110 day credit from any manufacturer and does not return any unsold merchandise. Any unsold merchandise is his chain's loss, he said.

All chain directors that *The Post* talked to said prices are always dictated by the manufacturers. Some manufacturers, such as Elite and Osem, hold virtual monopolies and there is thus no alternative to their products and prices. The chain directors said that if the manufacturers agreed to freeze their prices for three months, the chains would sell products at the same price for the three months.

Mosevics said that if the chains agreed to lower their credit period to 30 days, Elite would lower its prices by 10 per cent.

*The Post* asked the chains whether they would accept this challenge. Benjamin Gaon, managing director of Co-op in the Tel Aviv, Dan and Hasharon region, and Mordechai Kreiner, marketing manager of Supersol, both said they would agree to lower the credit to 30 days if manufacturers lowered prices by 10 per cent.

The chains say they work on low profit margins. Some chains fear they will not break even this year, while even the optimistic ones are hoping to make only 3 per cent profit on their turnover.

The chains say the past two months have been tough for them. Department stores report that the mild winter has caused a slump in the sale of winter clothing. Chain stores are planning to start sale campaigns soon that will continue until after Passover.

## MKs to Argentina to seek Israeli participation in trials

**By JUDY SIEGEL**  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The five MKs who are due to go to Argentina on Sunday to investigate the plight of "disappeared" Jews and anti-Semitism there will look into the possibility of enabling Israeli representatives to take part in trials of those responsible for the disappearances.

This was disclosed in a joint session of the Knesset's aliya and absorption committee and the security and defence committee yesterday, headed by all five MKs who were

headed by committee chairman Uzi Arad, noted that Italy and Spain were officially asked the new Argentine government for the right to take part in the trials on behalf of

their nationals who suffered under the former military regime. Baran said that the prime mission of the new Argentine government will be to present the "Jewish case," and that the

trial will be easier now than it would have been until two months ago, when the new, democratically elected government was intensively

working for "higher responsibility" for the dictatorship's excesses.

The MKs — Barak, Gafni, Gonen, Hachoni, Hachoni, Yosef, and Dror Zeigerman (the latter representing the Jewish Agency) — will be received at the airport by

Argentine officials, including the Parliament speaker and the chief trials investigator, and later by the new president, Raoul Alfonsín. They will also meet with representatives of the Jewish community.

Oscar Heimovich, whose sister was abducted by the Argentine authorities several years ago and has not been heard of since, complained to the MKs that the government and the Knesset had damaged the cause of the Jewish desaparecidos by keeping silent as the 1,500 Jews were abducted.

Danny Kait, a former emissary of this World Zionist Organization in Argentina, argued that the timing for the visit was wrong since, at the end of January, many Argentinian officials and local Jews were on their summer vacation. But MK

Dov Zakai, who was in Argentina five weeks ago, said it was important for the group to go now, and to demand representation at the trials.

Hachoni noted that the Foreign Ministry prevented the Knesset delegation from going to Argentina for many months, until after the fall of the dictatorship. The MKs even considered, but eventually rejected, the idea of going to their own expense as individuals.

David Ehrlich, a lawyer who represents the 40 families of desaparecidos living in Israel, charged that the visit was "too late, too little and too confused."

**Soldier suspected of making false complaint**  
TEL AVIV (Itim) — A 20-year-old soldier was released on \$15,000 bail yesterday by the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court after he was arrested on suspicion of submitting a false complaint to the police that he had been kidnapped by Arabs.

But the court ordered that he be detained for 24 hours during which he should be handed over to the military police, which has jurisdiction over cases involving soldiers.

A police representative told the court that the soldier, Dror Zaili Hani, of Bat Yam, had told police he had been kidnapped by four Arabs who had given him a lift in their vehicle. The Arabs then allegedly drugged him and sexually assaulted him. When he came to the next morning, he found himself lying in an alley in Jerusalem, he claimed.

The police told the court the story had been concocted after Hani was absent without leave at the Dead Sea.

**Fund to honour slain PLO moderate**  
The Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace announced yesterday that it was launching a fund to commemorate the late Dr. Yasser Arafat, the leading voice of moderation in the Palestine Liberation Organization, who was gunned down in Portugal last year.

The purpose of the fund is to sponsor research and cultural projects designed to promote Israeli-Palestinian understanding, and to "demystify" the image of the PLO in the eyes of the Israeli public.

Dr. Matti Peled, who announced the formation of the fund at a press conference in Jerusalem yesterday,

noted that Arafat's death has not dissuaded major PLO figures, including Yasser Arafat himself, from continuing their dialogue with members of the council, and that several meetings have taken place in Europe since his assassination.

The fund will provide an \$100,000 prize this year, to be awarded at a ceremony held as close as possible to April 10, the anniversary of Arafat's death.

Peled also announced that the council is trying to raise the \$100,000 necessary to erect a memorial to Arafat, designed by Israeli sculptor Yigal Tumarkin, near Acre, Arafat's birthplace.

**Beersheba stabbing victim identified**  
By LIORA MORIEL  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

BEERSHEBA — The body of a woman found stabbed to death on Monday night in the town's Dalet neighbourhood has been identified as that of Shoshana Partosh, 23, Partosh, the oldest of 13 children, was mentally handicapped.

Her repeatedly stabbed body was picked up by a Magen David Adom team after a tip-off from an anonymous caller. The team took

the body to the Soroka Hospital and informed the police.

The victim's father, Ya'acov Partosh, 47, a cinema usher and security man, identified the body. He said that she had gone to visit her aunt Monday evening. When he returned home after work and found her missing, he informed the police.

A special investigation team has been set up, but no details are available about the investigation.

**Camp residents win High Court injunction**  
The High Court of Justice in Jerusalem yesterday granted an interim injunction forbidding the Gaza Military Court from hearing charges of illegal building, filed against 24 residents of the Jabalya refugee camp.

The 24 residents, applying to the High Court, charged that the military court was not qualified to hear the cases, which should be heard by a regular municipal court. The attorney of the families maintained that it was against the Geneva Convention for a military court to hear charges of illegal

## 'All Jewish women in Finland join WIZO'

**By LEA LEVAVI**  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Every Jewish woman in Finland is a member of WIZO, Carmela Belinki, vice-president of WIZO in Helsinki, stated matter of factly.

"We have a total Jewish population of 1,100; we simply cannot afford to let anyone sit and do nothing."

Belinki, one of 34 delegates from abroad who came to attend the annual meeting of the World WIZO Plenary Executive, said WIZO in Finland is not too openly involved in work for Soviet Jewry, or in anything else which could be construed as anti-Soviet, because of Finland's geographic proximity to the Soviet Union.

Trudy Dreyfus, president of WIZO in Switzerland, said her country is also one of the fortunate ones where the Jewish population is small but active. There are 3,000

WIZO members out of a Jewish population of a little more than 18,000.

Both in Finland and in Switzerland, non-Jewish support is required for WIZO fund-raising.

Cecily Peters, president of Hadassah WIZO of Canada, said that in Canada, about 17,000 women, out of a Jewish population of 325,000, are WIZO members.

"Young women born after 1948 take the State of Israel for granted," she said. "They are also more career oriented."

She said members cannot be attracted by telling them how important it is to help Israel, or what wonderful work WIZO is doing here. They want to know what is in it for them. Once they join the organization, Peters said, they become involved in its varied projects.

**Armenians mark their Christmas today**  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The season's third and last Christmas Eve celebrations are due to take place today as the Armenian community marks the holiday.

The Armenian Patriarch is due to lead a procession this morning, in Bethlehem, arriving in front of the Church of the Nativity at 11 a.m. A special service is due to take place in the church at midnight.

**Top MD: Little need for treatment abroad**  
By LIORA MORIEL  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

BEERSHEBA — The public is being deceived sometimes when people place advertisements in newspapers calling for money to send children overseas for complicated surgery. Professor Avraham Mares, chairman of the Israeli Society of Pediatric Surgeons and head of Soroka Hospital's surgery unit, said here yesterday.

"There are very few surgical procedures that cannot be carried out in Israel," he said. "It would be preferable if the sums were donated to existing medical centres here, rather than using the money for

sending patients abroad for treatment."

Mares spoke of a Haifa baby boy, born with several defects needing corrective surgery. The boy's father advertised in the press for money to send "baby Rafael Nissim" to the U.S. for treatment. The advertisement was signed by Sephardi Chief Rabbi Mordechai Eliahu and a dozen others.

"I spoke with the chief rabbi and told him the boy could be successfully treated in Israel," Eliahu said he had not known this when the boy's father, the head of a Haifa yeshiva, contacted him for help.

The boy is now in Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem.

**Boys Town Jerusalem**  
The Administration, Faculty and Students extend a cordial welcome to Life-President Mr. Ira Guilden and BTJ's friends, currently visiting Israel. Our warmest wishes for a pleasant stay.

**Treasury chief leaves for aid talks in U.S.**  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Finance Ministry Director-General Emanuel Sharon yesterday left for Washington to join the talks on next year's U.S. aid package to Israel.

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An almond tree blossoms in the Jerusalem Forest on the eve of tomorrow's celebration of Tu B'Shvat, the "New Year of the Trees." (Rahumim Israeli)

## Drought may reduce Tu Bishvat plantings

**By HAIM SHAPIRO**  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Over 25,000 trees are due to be planted tomorrow in Tu B'Shvat ceremonies throughout the country, but 2 million other saplings may go unplanted because of this year's drought.

The plantings, to celebrate the "New Year of the Trees," will be carried out by school children, new immigrants and others at 150 sites prepared by the Jewish National Fund. This year a variety will be added to the forests, by planting indigenous oaks, terebinths, carobs, olives and acacias.

But 20,000 dunams prepared this year for afforestation may remain unplanted if the lack of rain continues.

In Jerusalem, the JNF and the municipality will decorate the Ben Yehuda pedestrian mall with a display of trees found in the country's forests, and will set up a model of a forest picnic area. Saplings will also be offered for sale.

The holiday marks the official beginning of Nature Protection Week, during which the country's environmental agencies offer a full schedule of programmes and free hikes. This year's focus is Israel's streams and rivers, particularly the Yarkon, along which a mass march is to take place on Saturday.

For information about the march and other programmes, call the Nature Protection Society, tel. 03-375063.

## Haifa man tries to block son's extradition

**Jerusalem Post Reporter**

TEL AVIV — The head of the International Federation of Airline Pilots Associations (IFALPA) is due to arrive here this evening for talks concerning the organization's convention, scheduled to take place here in March.

IFALPA President Robert Tweedy and four deputies, are coming following pressure from several of IFALPA's member nations to move the convention away from Israel.

Pilots from Sudan, Kuwait, Lebanon, the Soviet Union and Cuba have all said they could not attend a conference in Israel. The British association has reportedly opposed holding the conference here because of the danger of terrorist attacks.

Yitzhak Gonen, chairman of the Israeli Airline Pilots Association told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday that 10 members of the 40-member organization were opposed to holding the convention here. Thirteen others expressed no opinion, he added.

**Pilots press to shift meeting from Israel**  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

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**Kohl to get doctorate from Tel Aviv University**  
West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl is to be awarded an honorary doctorate by Tel Aviv University on January 26 in recognition of his support for legislation helping Holocaust survivors.

Kohl, who is due in Israel for an official visit next week, co-sponsored such legislation while he was leader of the opposition. The university also cited his devotion to democratic values and free speech.

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- Nathan H. Slutsky Family Junior High School
- Institute of Practical Engineering
- Institute of Advanced Jewish Studies (Kollet)

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- Joseph and Aranka Berger Residence Hall
- David and Ethel Ginsburg Residence Hall
- Horace W. and Grace Goldsmith Recreation Center
- Merrill Hassenfeld Amphitheater
- Jewish Children's Park
- Michael and Adelaide Kennedy-Leigh Dining Hall
- S. Lyons Family Library
- The Rose and Andrew Miller Synagogue
- Arnold and Marie Schwartz Students' Residence Center
- Archie and Marjorie Sherman Sports Center
- Marjorie Sherman Kitchens
- Bess and Paul Sigel Student Center
- Spingold Academic Building

The 36th Anniversary will be celebrated in Israel, the United States, Canada, England and Europe with special events. The first will be the International 36th Anniversary Dinner on June 13, 1984, at the Sheraton Center, New York City, honoring 36 BTJ "Double-Chat" Founders.

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Moshe Linchner,  
Dean and Vice-Chairman



## U.S., Soviet stands unchanged as Stockholm arms talks open

STOCKHOLM (Reuters). — Western ministers urged the Soviet Union at the start of a new European disarmament conference yesterday to return to nuclear missile talks, but a key Soviet ally reiterated conditions the West has been unwilling to meet.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, due to meet today with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, said the U.S. was ready to resume the Geneva talks, which the Soviet Union broke off last year, whenever Moscow wanted.

French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson said the 35-nation Stockholm forum — which will discuss measures to boost confidence between Warsaw Pact, NATO and neutral states — was no substitute for resuming negotiations on nuclear arms.

But East German Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer set out a tough Warsaw Pact stance, which Gromyko is expected to reinforce when he addressed the conference today.

Fischer said the siting of U.S. cruise and Pershing-2 missiles in

Western Europe had removed the basis of the Geneva negotiations and "there must be a return to the situation before deployment began, so that no military countermeasures become necessary on our side."

NATO has stressed that it is determined to continue deployment of 572 U.S. missiles unless Moscow accepts an arms control agreement.

The East German minister listed a catalogue of Soviet bloc proposals for the Stockholm agenda, most of which NATO had dismissed in advance as irrelevant.

They included a non-aggression pact, a treaty banning first use of nuclear arms, a freeze on new nuclear deployments and the creation of nuclear-free zones.

Shultz disclosed that the U.S. would soon present a draft treaty for a worldwide ban on chemical weapons, going beyond last week's Soviet proposal to agree on removing such arms from Europe.

He said the proposal would be made at the 40-nation Geneva committee on disarmament in the coming months.

Although his speech was marked by the new, softer tone set on Monday by President Reagan, Shultz made clear the U.S. was not backing away from its long-held insistence on human rights.

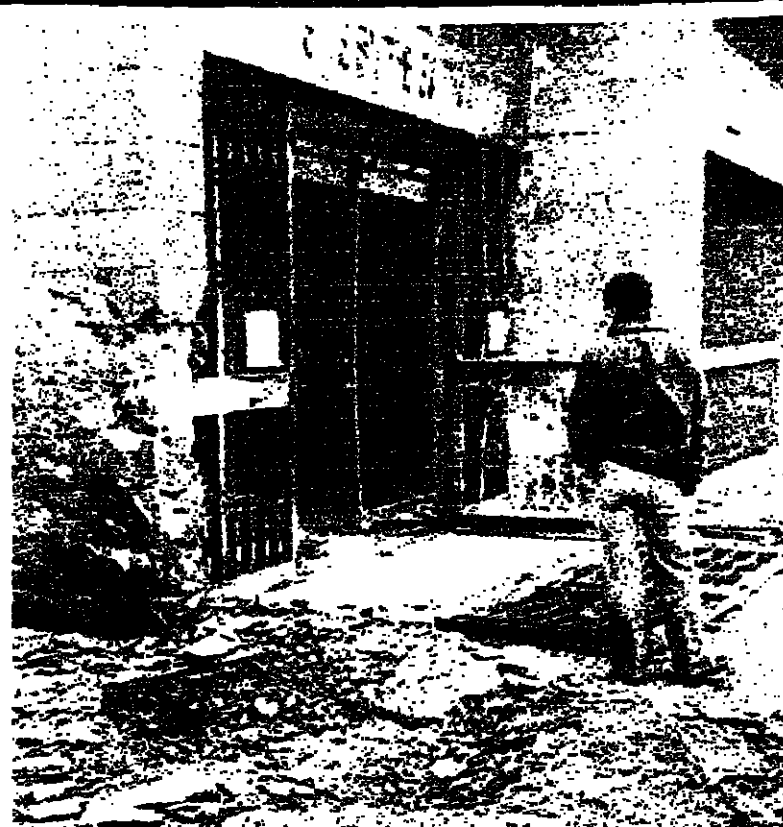
In a passage recalling previously tougher U.S. language, he declared: "The U.S. does not recognize the legitimacy of the artificially imposed division of Europe."

"This division is the essence of Europe's security and human rights problem, and we all know it," Shultz said.

Shultz and Cheysson outlined what NATO thought should be the theme of the conference — practical measures to reduce the risk of surprise attack by conventional forces through exchanges of information on military activities and improved communications.

Fischer indicated the Warsaw Pact was prepared to consider some of these proposals but wanted the wider issues of nuclear security discussed as well.

Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme, opening the meeting, urged the superpowers to forge "a grand strategy for peace."



A man inspects the damage to the Bank of Syria and Lebanon in east Beirut after shells fired by pro-Syrian Druse militiamen hit several city areas on Monday.

## Soviet rocket could take men to Mars, British TV reports

LONDON (Reuters). — The U.S. space shuttle has photographed a top-secret Soviet rocket capable of carrying men to Mars, British Television reported.

Independent Television News (ITN) said Monday night that the 88-metre tall rocket was the most powerful ever built. It was seen on a launch pad at Tyuratam in Kazakhstan.

ITN said Commander John Young photographed the Soviet rocket during the 59th orbit of the space shuttle's last mission in December.

According to ITN: "When the picture was enhanced by a computer they found they had the first

shot of the most powerful rocket that's ever been built."

The rocket had previously been hidden even from spy satellites by camouflaging netting, the report said, adding that this netting had now been removed.

The report said the rocket, called the G Vehicle, was not quite as tall as the Saturn 5 rocket which took the Americans to the moon. But it was more powerful and could lift a payload of 180 tons into a low earth orbit.

"NASA thinks it would be used to launch a 12-man space station, but it's also powerful enough for a manned mission to Mars," the British report said.

## Dutch court jails W. German in arms smuggling to Libya

ROTTERDAM (AP). — A Dutch court yesterday sentenced a West German to a year in prison for illegal storage of Libyan explosives in Rotterdam that ex-CIA agent Edwin Wilson was allegedly planning to supply to European terrorist organizations.

Wolfgang Steiniger, 37, was found guilty of unlawfully keeping 40 kilograms of C-4 plastic explosive on the premises of his shipping firm Whetship.

Rotterdam prosecutor Rudolf Gerding told the court in October that Libya was the point of origin for the explosives and that they were meant for distribution to the unnamed terrorist groups.

In later testimony, during January, a witness identified as an officer of the U.S. armed forces, testified for the defence that he had

arranged for Steiniger to store the explosives.

At the time the deal was made, the officer said, he was working for Edwin Wilson, an ex-CIA agent who was later convicted in the U.S. for attempted murder and smuggling firearms and explosives to Libya.

Rotterdam police discovered the explosives in December 1982, acting on a tip from the FBI. The C-4 was hidden in three barrels marked "drilling mud," a substance used to cool oil drilling bits. In dealing out the relatively mild prison term, the court said it had taken into account that Steiniger had been financially "ruined" by getting involved in the explosives smuggling plot. Whetship went bankrupt last year after Steiniger was taken into custody.

## Greek cabinet reshuffle stresses health, economy

ATHENS (Reuters). — Nine new ministers and under-secretaries were sworn into Greece's Socialist government yesterday in a reshuffle focusing on key domestic areas such as health and the economy.

In his second major reshuffle since coming to power in 1981, Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu has recalled to the cabinet two former economic ministers and named a Socialist ideologue to the key health portfolio.

Apostolos Lazaris, a business studies professor who was dropped as top economic minister 18 months ago, becomes minister to the prime minister, while Sakis Peponis, also a former economy minister, takes over the new post of broadcasting.

Pasok (Socialist) Party theoretician George Yennimatas becomes health minister at a time when a five-year-plan for a massive boost in

state medical spending has run into problems, with Athens doctors on strike over pay.

Promises to trim private medicine and improve conditions in the state hospitals, where resources are scarce and patients are often crammed into corridors, were a cornerstone of the electoral platform that brought Pasok to power.

The return to the cabinet of Lazaris and Peponis, and the replacement of George Moraitis as commerce minister by newcomer Vassilis Kedecoglou were seen by conservative commentators as an admission of failure in economic policy.

Inflation ran at 20.5 per cent last year, overrunning the government's modest target of getting it below 20 per cent after the 1982 figure of 21.0 per cent.

## Spanish gangsters slay three policemen

VALENCIA (Reuters). — Three Spanish civil guard police were killed near here yesterday in a pre-dawn gunfight with a gang of criminals in which one of their assailants also died, the local civil governor said.

The shooting had no connection with political terrorism, he said.

The gang of three or four men

opened fire on the police at a road junction after the van in which they were travelling was flagged down by a civil guard car patrol.

Several hours later, one of the attackers, an unemployed metal worker, staggered into his home in Valencia where he died of bullet wounds.

## Chinese invents bicycle-sofa-desk-wheelchair

PEKING (Reuters). — A Chinese inventor has developed a bicycle that can be converted into a tricycle, a desk, a sofa, or a wheelchair for the handicapped. The China Daily said yesterday.

The bicycle, designed by an engineer in the northern city of Shenyang, has passed an official technical appraisal, the paper said.

Police said they had some trouble removing the crocodiles, worth \$37,000, but were grateful they were in their winter hibernation.

PICKPOCKETS. — A man, 45, and his girlfriend, 32, were arrested yesterday on suspicion of trying to pick the pocket of a woman in the Lod market. The couple recently returned from Germany, where the man was imprisoned for the same offence.

## Spain Communists accuse Moscow of interference

MADRID (Reuters). — The Spanish Communist Party (PCE) yesterday accused the Soviet Communist Party of unacceptable interference in its internal affairs over the formation of a rival pro-Soviet Communist group in Spain.

The breakaway group, which calls itself the Communist Party (PC), was formally established on January 15 at the end of a three-day congress that was attended by party officials from the Soviet Union and other Warsaw Pact states.

The PC rejects the doctrine of Eurocommunist independence from Moscow and claims to follow orthodox Marxist-Leninism.

The PCE secretariat said in a statement that it profoundly deplored the presence of the Soviet delegation at the PC congress and a speech of support by one of its members.

"The PCE rejects such conduct of the Soviet party, which does not fit with Communist tradition and is improper for a party with whom we maintain relations," the PCE said.

The PCE also said it would challenge the name of the new party in the courts on the grounds that it would be confused with its own name.

## U.S. court rules video recording at home is legal

WASHINGTON (Reuters). — The U.S. Supreme Court ruled yesterday that home video taping of Hollywood films and other copyrighted television programmes is legal.

The 5-4 decision, in one of the most controversial cases to come before the court in recent years, was a victory for the \$3 billion a year home video industry, one of the fastest-growing electronic businesses in the U.S.

In its opinion, the Supreme Court said that home video recordings were being used by the general public primarily for home entertainment and not for commercial use. Therefore, this did not constitute a violation of U.S. copyright laws.

The decision came in a suit filed by Universal City Studios Inc. and Walt Disney Productions against Sony Corporation of America and other video equipment manufacturers.

## Paul McCartney's wife held on drugs charge

LONDON (AP). — Paul McCartney's American wife, Linda, was arrested at London's Heathrow Airport yesterday and charged with possessing marijuana two days after the couple were convicted of possessing the drug in Barbados, Scotland Yard said.

She was arrested after the couple landed with their three children, police said. At the airport, McCartney, 41, told reporters he thought marijuana should be legalized.

Both McCartney and his wife were fined \$100 at Hove Magistrates Court in Barbados on Monday for possessing marijuana at their vacation home on the Caribbean island.

A Scotland Yard spokesman said Linda was scheduled to appear before Uxbridge Magistrates Court in west London on the new charge on January 24.

## New chewing gum

WASHINGTON (AP). — A chewing gum laced with nicotine will soon be sold with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's approval as a prescription aid to smokers who want to quit the cigarette habit, an agency official said yesterday.

Dr. Edward Tocus, chief of the FDA's drug abuse staff, confirmed that the agency had approved an application by Merrill Dow Pharmaceuticals Inc. of Cincinnati to sell the gum that will be marketed as "nicorette."

Tricus, however, cautioned that the gum "isn't a panacea for stopping smoking... We've got data that show it can work for some people."

## Sports

### Shot in the arm

By DON COULD

Post Basketball Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Maccabi Tel Aviv have two reasons to celebrate their 70-65 victory over Hapoel Ramat Gan on Monday night before 1,000 cheering fans at the Yad Eliahu stadium.

Firstly, they reversed an early season loss to Ramat Gan, and secondly, by continuing their winning ways, they proved that they are ready to go all out for success in their crucial European Cup match in Italy on Thursday night against Banco Roma.

Proof of how important this game is to Israelis is that it is being televised live from Italy.

The champions came out blazing behind the brilliant shooting of Mickey Berkowitz, and, with 40 minutes still to go before the interval, they had built up a lead of 40-20. At that stage Berkowitz had scored as many points as the entire opposition.

Hapoel started to claw their way back into the game. At the half, they had trailed by 44-30, with Steve Kaplan putting the clamps on Berkowitz. Art Harvey, Sam Schachter and Steve Nislovic began to shake things up. Although Ramat Gan were without their ace player, David Nislovic, who scored 20 points, Maccabi's lead like an Israeli cheque. They got the score to 56-52, late in the 3rd, and then to 68-64.

With 2:55 minutes left, and the score 70-65, it seemed that Ramat Gan might win the night. But Steve Kaplan and Steve Nislovic came in to shake things up. Hapoel tried to defend the stretch, and Hapoel to try to win by a time by means of more great defensive rebounds.

Berkowitz ended the game with 26 points. Art Harvey topped Ramat Gan with 18 points and 10 rebounds.

Hapoel Tel Aviv could do nothing right and left nothing wrong — that sums up Maccabi's home court 96-70 victory. The winners were led by Doron Shefi with 24 points. Bill Miller scored 20 and grabbed 10 of the seven rebounds. He fouled out the minutes into the second half. Larone Mercer got 20 points for the losers.

Maccabi Ramat Gan put up a good fight against Hapoel Ramat Gan before losing 87-76 in a game that was closer than the score indicates.

Worse than the defeat for Doron was the blow when Jackie Robinson, one of the finest players in the country, went down after a collision with Hapoel's Motti Danesh. He was carried off with a broken leg. Nevertheless, he led all scorers with 21 points. Corey Nelson pulled down 16 rebounds. Motti Danesh, after a 15-point and 10-rebound effort, fouled out in the 3rd quarter.

Kiriat Maccabi, playing without Dan Shefi, gave Hapoel Ramat Gan a great fight, but came out on the short end, 82-80. Hapoel Ramat Gan led the winners with 28 points, but Hapoel Ramat Gan's Maccabi took the honours for the game and their entire league for the night with 33 points.

Barak of Ashdod, coached by Uzi Galilee 84-61. Brad Lee scored 26 points and Greg McCormick pulled down a night-high 19 rebounds. Daryl Robinson contributed 26 for Betar.

## The champions

LONDON (AP). — John McEnroe and Martina Navratilova were named yesterday as the world tennis champions of 1983 by the International Tennis Federation. The champions were chosen by a committee of three former Wimbledon champions, but McEnroe was not a unanimous choice. Fred Perry and Donald Budge voted for him, but Lew Hoad, the third member of the panel, favoured Mats Wilander.

## Windie triumphs

SYDNEY (AP). — The West Indies were off ahead in the Benson and Hedges One Day International Cricket Tournament by defeating Australia yesterday by 28 runs. Opener Desmond Haynes made 104 out and the solid Viv Richards scored 41. The West Indies won by 28 runs, Australia made 195 for 9.

In Johannesburg, the West Indian rebels won their Test against South Africa by one wicket in a cliffhanger. Alvin Kalichman, who captained the side, as Lawrence Rowe led the side, 11-0 was tremendous cricket. The game fluctuated from one side to another all along the line. I've played in 66 official Tests in my career, but this was the most nerve-wrecking game I've ever been in. South Africa's Chris Rice said, "They don't come much closer than this one. This game has been like one-day cricket all through the four days."

S.A. 160 and 236. Windie rebels 193 and 204 for 4.

## State Cup soccer

TEL AVIV. — Two National League Cup sides went through to the next round of the State Cup by eliminating teams from lower leagues in replays yesterday. Maccabi Jaffa 3 (David Amir 2, Mervin Mervin 1) beat Hapoel Hadera, 2nd Division 1 (Yehuda Elad).

Hapoel Lod 4 (Benny Samra 2, Moshe Zetlin 1, Yankov Benadid, goalkeeper, from the penalty spot 1) — Hapoel Acre (3rd Division) 0.

## Shlomo weds

HERZLIYA. — Shlomo Glickstein, 26, the man who put Israel on the international tennis map, was feted by hundreds of players and officials at his wedding last night to Lina Levy, of Jerusalem, also 26, in the Accadia-Dan Hotel.

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**Arye Bar-On**  
Registrar of Contractors

**118 stolen crocodiles in couple's fish pond**  
TAIPEI (Reuters). — A Taiwanese couple has been arrested for stealing 118 crocodiles from a reptile farm in southern Taiwan after the reptiles were found hibernating in their fish pond, police reported yesterday.  
Police said they had some trouble removing the crocodiles, worth \$37,000, but were grateful they were in their winter hibernation.  
**PICKPOCKETS.** — A man, 45, and his girlfriend, 32, were arrested yesterday on suspicion of trying to pick the pocket of a woman in the Lod market. The couple recently returned from Germany, where the man was imprisoned for the same offence.

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# THE TRAGEDY OF ARABIC



'Successive governments say they're interested in encouraging the study of Arabic, but they never take it seriously,' says Prof. Sasson Somekh. The Post's MARSHA POMERANTZ reports.

Do you go first with about 100 years to promote the study of Arabic literature in Israel? That's the problem faced by Prof. Sasson Somekh, the genial, energetic and extended director of Tel Aviv University's School of Language and Literature, and chairman of the Department of Arabic Language and Literature.

He has recently been awarded the Dr. Yehonatan chair for Arabic literature, and like most academic chairs it will not offer any rest. The salary above is the approximate amount from the \$250,000 endowment — a private chair at his disposal for the rest of his career.

Somekh, now 50, was born in Baghdad and came to Israel at the age of 16. Only then did he begin to learn Hebrew. Today, in addition to his research and teaching, he is one of the leading translators of modern Arabic literature into Hebrew. He studied at Oxford, and his English is excellent, though he says he is still uneasy by the indefinite article.

He plans to use the endowment funds to promote literary scholarship through an annual international conference at the university to attract the attention of high school students potentially interested in Arabic literature; and to support an intensified translation program to make Arabic works available in Hebrew.

The first international conference was held in the fall — a two-day meeting on Arabic poetics in the Golden Age, with the participation of some of the world's leading scholars. Next year's conference will be more ambitious, he says. It will treat Arabic literature in Spain, in connection with the centenary of the period — the names you see in the streets of Jerusalem: Rabbam, Yehuda Halevi.

Arabic and Hebrew literature are usually taught separately, so it will be interesting to compare their development. For instance, whether the prosody of Hebrew literature of the period derives from

Spanish or Moslem sources. "It sounds esoteric, but you can discover much about the development of culture that way," he says.

He stresses the need for basic research in literature, which is always obvious to scholars but not necessarily to those in charge of skimping and saving on university budgets.

Those who insist that there ought to be some useful application for conclusions about metrical structure will perhaps be reassured by a congratulatory letter Somekh received from his friend, Egyptian novelist Naguib Mahfouz.

"It reads, in part: 'Literature, of course, was and remains the best channel for establishing spiritual ties between peoples, and your appointment for the new Chair confirms what I had known of your deep knowledge and your devotion to our literature, as well as the singular ability you possess of presenting and analyzing it.'

One of the problems for scholars is tracking down the material to be presented and analyzed. "Arabic literature is probably the richest literature in pre-modern times," Somekh says. But only about 20 percent of existing manuscripts have been published. "Literature" for the period is not the narrow definition we have today, but includes "theology, Koranic interpretations, anecdotes, texts on grammar, and philosophy in its wider sense, including math and sciences."

The manuscripts are scattered all over the world, with significant collections in Istanbul, Cairo, Leningrad, Leyden and the U.S. The problem of scholars working separately in all these places is of course intensified by the political situation. "For instance, Damascus is an important center of study, but even Western scholars in Syria or Saudi Arabia won't come to Israel." If there is any surreptitious cooperation, no one will admit to hearing tip-toeing in the library stacks.

In any case, another idea for a conference is one on manuscripts — to gather a dozen scholars, or even fewer, and try to coordinate efforts

to locate, publish and interpret manuscripts. A similar problem of dispersion exists for medieval Hebrew manuscripts, Somekh says. They're at Cambridge, Oxford, the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, Leningrad, Leyden, and some are still in Cairo.

THE SECOND major area Somekh wants to tackle with his new-found funds is the recruitment of good students. On the basis of 20 years' experience in education, he calls the treatment of Arabic in high schools "a scandal."

"Successive governments say we're interested in encouraging the study of Arabic, but they never take it seriously," he says. "They say that more students are taking Arabic now, but the percentage of those majoring in it is going down. That's the tragedy."

The heyday for Arabic in the high schools was in the '50s, when there was a good curriculum and dedicated teachers. Some of the leaders in the field today — he mentions Shimon Shamir, who heads the Israeli Academic Mission in Cairo, and Haim Shaked — emerged from

those classes.

A high-school background is vital, since university programmes don't start from scratch, Somekh explains. Some entering students take an intensive six-month course, but in most cases, knowledge of the language is a prerequisite for studies.

This year, for the first time, there was a greater interest in Arabic among good students, while the level of students seemed to be dropping in other departments. But Somekh sees the increased interest as a "delayed reaction to Sadat's

visit" rather than a credit to high-school preparation.

Tel Aviv University takes about 50 new students each year; the Hebrew University takes a similar number. About two-thirds are Jews and one-third Arabs, says Somekh, but in the smaller department at Haifa University, there's a larger proportion of Arabs.

One way to stimulate interest in the subject in Jewish high schools is to have university staff visit for talks. "But the faculty here are so busy publishing, etc., that they have no time for this missionary activity."

Possible solution: use the Halmos money to invite teachers and students to the university for long study days once or twice a year. "We may even bring them to proper university lectures," says Somekh. "They might get infected."

IN ORDER to interest students, teachers have to have better translations to offer and books about the subject, Somekh says. "For instance, there's no good survey of Arabic literature in Hebrew."

Which brings us to the third project for the endowment: more and better translations. About 10 books have recently been translated, he says — mostly works by his friend Mahfouz; one is a novel of Beirut in 1975 by a Lebanese.

What about Palestinian works? He mentions one outstanding work by Emil Habibi, a member of Rakah, the communist party, who was in the Knesset for 15 years. He's "not prolific, but probably the best Palestinian novelist today," says Somekh. His book, whose title is a neologism roughly equivalent to *The Optimist*, has been translated into Hebrew by Anton Shammas, a poet who writes in both Arabic and Hebrew.

A few segments of the work are presented in the October-November issue of *Moznaim*, the magazine of the Hebrew Writers' Association, which has devoted the double issue to Arabic literature in translation.

The book is picaresque, describing with tongue-in-cheek delicacy a

series of misadventures. In the *Moznaim* selections, the hero, who has lived in Haifa all his life, is returned there in an army truck from Acre after the 1948 war, and "welcomed" to the Jewish state. He goes to see who's hanging laundry now on the balcony of the family villa. He serves up his courage to ask the time in Hebrew of a Jewish labourer, and is answered "uchi."

The book has been translated into English by Trevor Le Gassick, a British scholar, and Salma Jayyusi, a Palestinian poet. It was issued in New York last year by Vantage under the title: *The Secret Life of Saeed, the Ill-Fated Pessimist* and subtitled "A Palestinian who became a citizen of Israel."

Other Palestinian works are available in English in a series published by *Three Continents* in the U.S., which collaborates with Heinemann in England. Among them are books by Ghassan Kanafani, who was the spokesman for George Habash until his death about 10 years ago, and Mahmud Darwish, "an ex-Israeli who works for the PLO in Beirut."

The choice of the books in the series is "not always the best, as far as I'm concerned," says Somekh. "There's a tinge of propaganda, of tendentiousness, in it." Besides, he adds, "the translations are less than perfect."

Arabs depicted in Hebrew literature tend to be allegorical, and the same is true of Jews depicted in Arabic literature. "The most important authors never wrote of Jews," he says. "They knew they didn't know."

But there's "a plethora of trivial literature" in Arabic which presents Jewish stereotypes that Somekh still finds shocking in their distortion. They tend to be "the cruel Ashkenazi officer" and "a woman named Rachelle" who is often both soldier and prostitute.

Increased study of the literature may or may not lead to palpable change in the relationship between peoples. In any case, the projects he is supported by the Halmos chair are primarily of intellectual interest. Proudly first, Optimism after.

## Planter of trees

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Palestine, he reportedly got together with the revered chief rabbi, Avraham Yitzhak Hacohen Kook, and agreed with him that Tu B'Shvat would be an ideal occasion for planting saplings. The chief rabbi lent national-religious prestige to the plantings, which had already been introduced (on a small scale) as the thing to do on Tu B'Shvat by the Teachers' Union in 1905.

IN HIS autobiography *My Life — My Trees*, published in London in 1970, Baker recalled that when he arrived in Jerusalem, he called on the mufti, the Latin patriarch, the Greek Orthodox patriarch, the bishop of Jerusalem and the chancellor of the Hebrew University, and invited them to a meeting with the high commissioner to consider the re-planting of the land.

He did not tell any of them that he had invited the others; when they all turned up, it was "the first time that the heads of all these religions had been brought together."

He told them that there was no land "needing trees more than

Palestine and no land would respond so well to planting." The land had suffered for centuries from invading armies, olive trees had been taxed and cut down for fuel to avoid the taxation. "I reminded them that in historic times the country had been well wooded and for its future prosperity tree-cover must be restored to the hills," he wrote. He enlisted them all in founding a Men of the Trees society in Palestine, which the heads of the government departments also joined.

"I promised to donate £1,000 to help start tree nurseries and the high commissioner promised a further £1,000. Very soon 42 nurseries were established."

BAKER then describes a Tu B'Shvat tree-planting ceremony in the Bayit Vegan suburb of Jerusalem, which he attended with the 'local' rabbi; 4,000 Jewish schoolchildren from Jerusalem took part, marching to the site in a "four mile long procession."

After the saplings were planted the children each received a bag of fruit and nuts with a bottle of fresh orange juice.

"This revival of the Feast of Trees took place on the 15th of Shvat, 1929. During the long years of Dispersion, Jews had kept this memorable feast established in Levitical times by eating 15 different kinds of fruit grown in the Holy Land. Now with the return to the Land they were once more planting in memory of the ancient saying 'He who plants in the land shall possess the land.'"

He recalled that back in London, and as a result of a lecture tour to America, he raised more funds to establish tree nurseries in Palestine and to "plant the new forest between Jerusalem and Jaffa."

Years later he was introduced to a young English officer who had commanded a company in Palestine "which for three days had endeavoured to catch up with Arab marauders. At the end of that time they emerged, tired and hungry, their emergency rations finished, and the Arabs still hiding in the forest. The officers reported their failure to their colonel, who reported to the general, who called on the governor general, Wauchope, to suggest the forest be cut down so that the army could complete their job."

"What, general," said the governor. "You must not dare touch a tree, those were planted by the Men of the Trees, it's as much as my job's worth."

Baker later met General Wauchope in London. "I asked him if there was any truth in the story and he replied: 'That's true, or near enough. You'd have had me sacked, Baker, wouldn't you?'" Baker also took the opportunity on his visit to Palestine to call on Shoghi Rabbaneh Effendi, the late guardian of the Baha'i faith. "He greeted me and handed me an envelope with his application for life membership of the Men of the Trees. He promised that I would succeed in bringing all the Heads of Religion in Palestine together in the cause of the trees."

This he indeed succeeded in doing. Baker died in Saskatoon, the home of his first university, where he went to attend the opening of a building in his honour.

The trees he was instrumental in planting in this country and the Tu B'Shvat tree-planting ceremonies live on to keep his memory green in Israel.

## Stopping construction

LAW REPORT / Asher Felix Landau

the attention of property owners affected. Objections to the scheme may be lodged within two months after the publication in the official gazette.

IN TERMS of Order 161 of the military commander, every provision in a law requiring publication in the official gazette shall be interpreted as meaning publication in a manner regarded by him as sufficient to bring the matter to the notice of persons affected. Pursuant to this order, the general commanding the Central District decided on four methods of publication, the relevant one of which provides that in the case of a publication affecting a town or village, the notice shall be exhibited in the municipal offices or the home of the mukhtar, as the case may be.

The result was that the notice relating to scheme 1/81, for the purpose of lodging objections, should have been published in two local newspapers, and exhibited in the offices of the local council of Ariel.

THE NOTICE relating to scheme 1/81 had not been published as required, the president continued. It had appeared in one local newspaper only. Even were it possible to regard that omission as a mere technical error, there was the far more important fact that the notice — and what was the most serious aspect of all, the right to lodge objections — had not been exhibited in the offices of the local council, nor brought in any way to the attention of the local inhabitants.

Moreover, the various meetings that had taken place between the planning authorities and the local

council and inhabitants could have created the impression that no final scheme existed for Solel Boneh Bet, and that they would still have the opportunity of objecting to any such scheme. It was true that the local council had been represented at the meeting of the planning commission which approved the scheme, but that was no substitute for proper publication of the notice and the right to object.

The failure to exhibit the notice and the right to lodge objections at the local office and inform the inhabitants, was no technical fault, Justice Kahan said, and was sufficient to justify the order sought. There was even a further defect, for the notice bringing scheme 1/81 into force had not been published until after the petition had been lodged. The result was that the building permit for Solel Boneh Bet had been issued under a scheme which in law did not exist.

Justice Kahan said he had considered whether the petitioners were not stopped from applying to court since they had built their own houses by virtue of a permit under the very scheme which they now argued was invalid. Since, however, they were entitled to assume when they received their permits that the authorities had acted according to law, and had only become aware of the legal defects referred to when they investigated the validity of the permit issued to the fourth respondent, they were not precluded from approaching the court.

FOR THE ABOVE reasons, the petition was allowed and the permit issued to the respondent set aside. The military and planning authorities and the fourth respondent, were each ordered to pay the costs of the petitioners in the sum of IS25,000.

Advocates Mordechai and Ravital Galuska appeared for the petitioners; Advocate Eli Ben-Tovim, senior assistant state attorney, for the military and planning authorities and Advocate Boaz Weismann for the fourth respondent.

Judgment was given on October 2, 1983.

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## Honouring a challenge

MUSIC

Tel Aviv Conservatory Orchestra, Steven Sloane conducting, with Michal Shamir, soprano (YMCA Auditorium, Jerusalem, January 12). Mozart: Symphony No. 4, K. 19; Rodrigo: Cuatro Vals de los Amantes; Vivaldi: Suite for Soprano "Bella Mia Flamma." K. 528; Debussy: The Unanswered Question; Stravinsky: Pulcinella, Suite (after Pergolesi).

THE VAST majority of music students studying instruments who do not go on to professional studies regrettably drop out sooner or later from active music-making, with only very few banding together for chamber music ensembles and the like. It is all the more welcome therefore that there is now a youth orchestra in Tel Aviv, which for the last two years has been working under the professional direction of new immigrant Steven Sloane. It made its debut in Jerusalem last week. The interesting programme was the brainchild of the enterprising and adventurous conductors and the performance proved his conscientious preparation and careful nursing of the young talents.

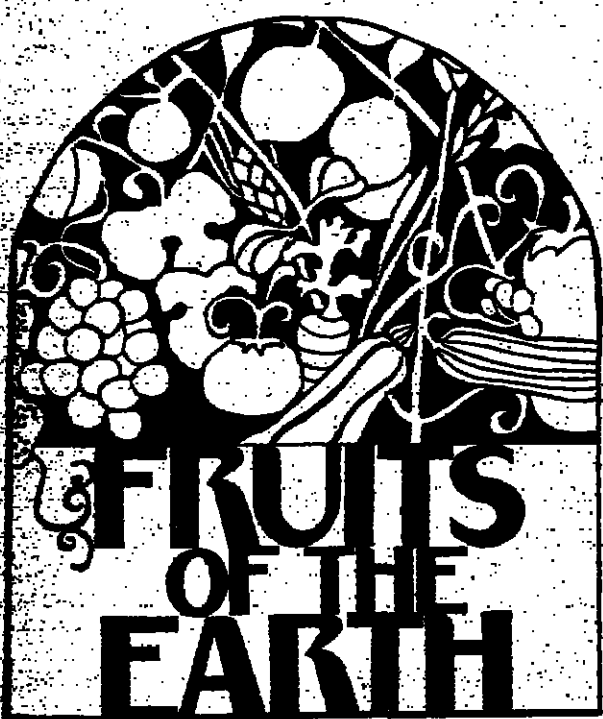
Aided by their five coaches, members of the Israel Chamber Orchestra, the young players stood up to the challenge with honour, and it was a real pleasure to listen to the lively and contrasting performances.

Guest singer Michal Shamir made a most promising debut, with a clear pleasant soprano voice, though still lacking sufficient volume and more flexibility in nuances to be fully appreciated. Her enunciation needs to be improved upon as the Spanish words in the Rodrigo Madrigals were nearly unintelligible, which the Italian in the Mozart Aria was only slightly better.

On the whole, the Tel Aviv Conservatory and its conductor, Steven Sloane, are to be congratulated for this orchestral ensemble, which deserves encouragement from all the powers-that-be.

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## U.S. disappoints World Bank

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## Turnovers sink, but spirits rise

The ban on Israeli trading in shares on foreign stock exchanges (except those of Israeli companies) had no effect on trading yesterday on the Tel Aviv stock exchange. Financial circles "hoped," however, that this would change in the future and more funds would be channeled into the local market. The turnover continued to fall, to \$242 million (about \$2m.) approximately \$500,000 less than on the day before. Trading in bonds was resumed after it had been stopped on the previous day to allow management to rearrange bonds in groups in line with their yields. Turnover was \$587.3m. (\$5.94m.).

On the whole, a more favorable picture prevailed. Prices went up with the General Share Index by 0.67 per cent. However, if commercial banks, which constituted 61 per cent of all trading, were excluded, the index rose by only 0.27 per cent.

The various categories rose as follows: commercial banks, plus 0.84 per cent; mortgage banks, plus 0.06 per cent; financial institutions, plus 0.25 per cent; and insurance companies, minus 0.16 per cent.

Trade and utilities were down 0.68 per cent; land development, minus 0.43 per cent; industrials, plus 0.72 per cent; investment companies, plus 0.13 per cent; and oil companies, minus 0.18 per cent.

The average index rises or falls do not reflect the fact that in many of these categories, there were shifts in

### Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

By MACABEE DEAN

either direction of ten per cent. The changes were considerably more, now and then, for options.

Of the light "wild swingers" — shares which rose or fell by about ten per cent or more, three rose and five fell. Those which rose were Maritime, and Pri-Zel No. 1, both up by ten per cent, and Delek by 10.2 per cent. Those which fell were: Contractors, by nine per cent; Electric Corp., T.A.T. and Azraim, all by ten per cent, and Zion Insurance, by 10.1 per cent.

A total of 53 shares (including seven "buyers only") rose by five per cent or more, while 47 (including 11 sellers only) fell by the same margin.

Among the "arrangement" shares, Leumi continued to rise, gaining 41 points (2.9 per cent). The previous day it rose by 20 points. IDB, Discount and Hapoalim remained firm despite large sell orders.

The renewed demand for industrials (it will be remembered that this category rose more than any other on Monday) included Ata C, the company which only a few short weeks ago had to be bailed out by the government. Sdom Metals rose.

but Elbit fell by 1.2 per cent, while Elron gained 0.1 per cent.

Avit (which recently announced it had bought a firm in the U.S.) rose by 40 points, or five per cent. Teva also gained 120 points (6.9 per cent). Teva, which lately faced a bad run of selling, now seems to be recovering.

As for investment companies, despite the fact that this category rose only slightly, there were some exceptions. These included Elern, up 16 points (four per cent) and Discount Investments, up 50 points (5.4 per cent). Oz Investments rose by 28 points (9.6 per cent).

Bayside Land Corporation announced it was increasing its registered capital (at present \$150m.) by \$275m.

Spectronics is examining the possibility of raising capital in the U.S.

Solel Boneh has obtained a 50 per cent share in Clal Oil and Gas for \$330,000. At present Clal Oil and Gas is searching for oil in the Gedera and Kerem Shalom areas, and it has a ten per cent right in the drilling at Kochav 26, eight per cent at Gurim 4, and three per cent in Karmon 3.

Hadarim Properties is increasing its registered capital from \$250m. to a total of \$600m.

Elihu Properties announced that early this month it bought 722,860 Phoenix Insurance 0.1 shares at 1.325 points. After this acquisition, Elihu now has 12,278,860 0.1 shares in Phoenix.

Elbit Electronics states that in the April-December 1983 period its sales were more than \$80m., and its profits \$8m. The company has orders for \$20m. on hand, about half of them from abroad.

Property Building is increasing its registered capital from \$350m. to \$580m.

Tadris Ready Mixed Concrete announces that its 140 bonus share allocation of February 1983 will be the final dividend for 1982/83.

**Most active stocks**

Hapoalim	2,180	IS41.2m.	n.c.
Leumi	1,453	IS33.9m.	+41
IDB	3,349	IS24.4m.	n.c.
Shares traded:		IS282.7m.	
Convertible:		IS 9.2m.	
Bonds:		IS687.3m.	

### Dollar Representative Rates

**NEW YORK (AP).** — Money rates for Monday at 3:45 p.m., as reported by Telex-Systems Inc.

Prime Rate: 11

Discount Rate: 8

Dealers commercial paper: 30-180 days: 9.10-9.05

Certificates of deposit \$100,000 30-59 days: 9.00

60-89 days: 9.05

Treasury BI rates:

3-month as of Jan 16: 8.82

6-month as of Jan 16: 8.92

### Bank of Israel exchange rates

	IS
January 17, 1984	116.19
U.S. dollar	165.69
British sterling	41.742
French franc	13.643
Dutch guilder	37.104
Swiss franc	52.373
Swedish krona	14.288
Norwegian krone	14.871
Danish krone	11.516
Finnish mark	19.715
Canadian dollar	93.322
Australian dollar	105.09
South African rand	93.306
Belgian franc (100)	20.434
Austrian schilling (100)	59.205
Italian lire (100)	68.721
Japanese yen (100)	49.762
Irish pound	128.91
Spanish peseta (100)	73.154
Jordanian dinar	307.90
Lebanese lira	20.030
Egyptian pound	102.54

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S.D.R.	120.125 121.334

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COUNTRY	CURRENCY	CHEQUES AND TRANSFERS	BANKNOTES
U.S.A.	DOLLAR	114.450	118.500
GREAT BRITAIN	STERLING	163.090	168.880
FRANCE	FRANC	13.643	14.288
GERMANY	MARK	41.742	42.560
HOLLAND	GULDEN	37.104	37.820
SWITZERLAND	FRANC	52.373	53.200
SWEDEN	KRONA	14.288	14.871
NORWAY	KRONE	14.871	15.160
DENMARK	KRONE	11.516	11.740
FINLAND	MARK	19.715	19.700
CANADA	DOLLAR	93.322	93.300
AUSTRALIA	DOLLAR	105.09	105.000
SOUTH AFRICA	RAND	93.306	93.300
BELGIUM	FRANC	20.434	20.400
AUSTRIA	SCHILLING	59.205	59.200
ITALY	LIRE	68.721	68.700
JAPAN	YEN	49.762	49.700

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SELLING	BUYING
U.S.	116.7718 118.8080
Swiss	164.4348 164.7775
DM	41.8333 41.5113
French FR	13.6992 13.5627
Dutch G	37.2567 36.8856
Swiss FR	52.5626 52.0292
Swedish KR	14.3631 14.2200
Norwegian KR	14.8616 14.8026
Danish KR	11.5787 11.4534
Finnish MK	19.7783 19.5734
Canadian \$	93.7813 92.8474
Australian \$	105.8784 104.6281
Rand	93.6217 92.8889
Belgian Con (100)	20.5548 20.3501
Belgian Fln (100)	20.1940 19.9828
Austrian S (100)	59.3856 58.8011
Yen (100)	49.9879 49.4901
Italian Lire (1000)	68.0405 68.3530

GOLD: \$368.80/\$368.30/oz.

### INTERBANK SPOT RATES:

Danish KR	11.5787	11.4634
Finnish MK	19.7733	19.5734
Canadian \$	93.7813	92.8474
Australian \$	105.6784	104.6281

FORWARD RATES:

	1 m.	3 m.	6 m.
U.S.	1.4248/261	1.4239/272	1.4230/283
DM	1.7732/272	1.7723/283	1.7714/294
Sw FR	2.2047/682	2.1940/693	2.1833/704

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### Commercial Banks

(not part of "arrangement")	Closing price	Volume	Change	% change
OHH	270	14	-10	-3.7
Maritime 0.1	274	190	-25	-10.0
Maritime 0.5	108	1036	n.c.	
N. American 1	3312	59	n.c.	
N. American 5	2103	73	n.c.	
N. Am. op 1	1120	38	n.c.	
Danot 1	208	64	+10	+5.1
Danot 5	64	20	n.c.	
Danot sc 2	160	20	n.c.	
First Int'l 5	199	181	n.c.	
FIBI	189	56	n.c.	

### Commercial Banks (part of "arrangement")

	Closing price	Volume	Change	% change
IDB p	2580	n.c.		
IDB r	3549	752	n.c.	
IDB B r	130	1	n.c.	
Dev. Mortgage B	20280	1	+4.3	
IDB op 11	1980	142	-20	-1.0
Unit 0.1	2412	201	n.c.	
Discount B r	4202	8	n.c.	
Discount A r	n.c.			
Discount B 2	2080	25	-29	-1.0
Dev. Mortgage B	510	117	-15	-2.9
Mizrahi p	1371	1250	-9	-0.7
Mizrahi b	1370	40	-2	-0.2
Mizrahi op 11	2040	21	-20	-1.0
Mizrahi op 12	180	178	+5	+3.6
Mizrahi op 6	11400	13	-360	-3.3
Mizrahi op 9	508	13	-10	-1.7
Hapoalim p	2025	n.c.		
Hapoalim r	2190	1892	n.c.	
Hapoalim B	2190	240	n.c.	
Hapoalim op 8	8130	6	+40	+0.5
General A	not trading			
General op 8	not trading			
General op 9	not trading			
General op 5	not trading			
General op 7	not trading			
Leumi p	1450	23	-41	-2.9
Leumi op 11	40	-21	-1.1	
Leumi op 9	563	644	+5	+0.9
Finance Trade 1	1920	n.c.		
Finance Trade 5	989	n.c.		
Finance Trade op 550	3	-52	-3.3	

### Financial Institutions

	Closing price	Volume	Change	% change
Adania 0.1	761	1	n.c.	
Gen. Mortgage	1276	12	-1	-0.1
Gen. Mortgage	1277	1	n.c.	
Gen. Mortgage	1530	1	n.c.	
Carmel op	680	20	+36	+5.6
Carmel deb	135	149	n.c.	
Binyan	901	11	-39	-4.2
Dev. Mortgage r	980	15	-10	-1.1
Dev. Mortgage b	980	1	n.c.	
Dev. Mortgage op	193	40	n.c.	
Mishkan r	3685	8	n.c.	
Mishkan b	3685	12	n.c.	
Independence	1650	7	n.c.	
Tefahot p r	709	1	n.c.	
Tefahot b	690	13	n.c.	
Tefahot deb. 1	311	10	n.c.	
Tefahot deb. 2	173	201	-5	-2.8
Jaysour 1	271	21	n.c.	
Jaysour 5	508	4	n.c.	
Jaysour op	71	93	-5.3	
Merav r	174	173	+3	+1.8

### Hotels, Tourism

	Closing price	Volume	Change	% change
Galei Zohar 1	281	100	n.c.	
Galei Zohar 5	133	15	-1	-0.7
Dan Hotels 1	202	22	-5	-2.5
Corall Beach	230	47	-9	-4.1
Yarden Hotel	174	49	-5	-2.8
Yarden Hotel op	49	47	+4	+8.2
Yahalom	69	50	-4	-5.9
Yahalom op	36	205	+6	+20.0

### Computers

Securitas r	125	208
Zur r	78	-
Zion Hold. 1	268	-
Zion Hold. 5	115	74
<b>Trade &amp; Services</b>		
<b>Trade</b>		
Meir Ezra	214	380
Meir Ezra op	143	16
Teta 1	110	19
Teta 5	80	7
Teta op	27	25
Clal Trade	230	6
Clal Trade op	300	-
Crystal 1	111	100
Rapac 0.1	825	-
Rapac 0.5	167	36
Supersol 1	1070	1
Supersol B 10	380	18
Supersol op C	140	2
<b>Services</b>		
Delek r	1150	400
Harel 1	402	112
Harel 5	153	122
Lighterage 0.1	261	43
Lighterage 0.5	168	267



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Shvat 14, 5744 • Rabia-Thani 14, 1404

## Immaculate misconception

THE LATEST foreign currency restrictions — preceded by those of November — are not among the greatest hardships recently imposed by the government.

People below the poverty line will certainly not feel the pinch, and neither will most of those who can afford to travel abroad. Businessmen going abroad regularly are, in many instances, permitted by law to keep unrestricted foreign bank accounts; and of those who take a cheap vacation in Rhodes, Naples or Majorca instead of an expensive one in Eilat or Tiberias, the overwhelming majority has never been able to afford the full sum of \$3,000 one could legally acquire until now.

Similarly, no great disaster has befallen Israeli savers by no longer being able to buy more than \$2,000 a year per person to keep, interest-free, in a private safe or under the mattress. And there is not much cause to bemoan the fate of those who can no longer legally buy foreign securities.

Just as these restrictions will make few people suffer any hardship, so will they contribute next to nothing to alleviating, let alone solving, any of the economy's problems. The amount of foreign currency that will be denied to individual savers and travellers will be paltry. The country's foreign currency reserves are not going to be boosted perceptively, and it is doubtful whether our credit standing with the international banking community will be significantly improved as a result of these measures.

Restrictive measures so immaterial in financial magnitude, so irrelevant to the economy's real problems, and so unenforceable in practice are bound to be regarded as nothing but the result of panic. In panic, action is taken for its own sake, not in any rational expectation of matching purpose and results.

On purely "technical" grounds the Treasury cannot be faulted for the latest currency restrictions as such. Wealthier countries, such as Sweden or France, have done the same. The point, is rather that the whole exercise is pointless. Restrictions that cannot be enforced are worse than none: they penalize the honest, and make a mockery of the law. Six years ago, the first Likud government, in the euphoric period when foreign policy was the domain of Herut and economic policy that of the Liberals, the currency control administration was dismantled.

That control had never been watertight, and it turned more and more leaky as Israel's foreign trade became a larger part of its total economic activities. By now, however, nothing is left of even the control mechanisms that once existed, and to rebuild them — if anyone were seriously to attempt to do so — would be a lengthy, if not impossible task.

Things would not have been half so bad if Mr. Cohen-Orad, as a new finance minister, with the professional qualifications and practical experience of a planner, had taken two-three weeks more to do nothing but think, and come up with a comprehensive economic programme. Instead, he rushed into action. As a result, he displays all the signs of panic and induces it among the public at home and, worse still, probably also among our leaders abroad.

## Tami discovers poverty

IN ORDER to get a true understanding of the problems posed by poverty in Israel, it is necessary to distinguish between the National Insurance Institute's annual report for 1982 and the Institute's public relations campaign that accompanied it on Monday. The report reveals the causes that have pushed a growing number of working families below the poverty line, while the campaign reveals Tami's hunger for sensationalist headlines to promote its coalition demands.

The "sudden" discovery of 500,000 poor people in Israel was a concoction of the NII spokesman's office to create the misleading impression of an important new development. It was useful for dramatizing Tami's demands to compensate low-paid wage-earners and to raise NII benefits for the poor, but it was an irresponsible exercise in statistical manipulation.

The figure of 500,000, which is not even mentioned in the report, includes about 200,000 working families whose income is below the poverty line, and 300,000 widows, aged and disabled who have only their NII benefits to live on.

In truth the figure of 500,000 people below the poverty line has been fairly constant for the past three years, and is familiar to welfare experts. What the report, prepared by the research division of the NII, has done is to lift the veil on a predatory tax policy that has been pushing a significant number of working families below the poverty line since 1977. This discovery was due to the more sophisticated analytical techniques adopted by the department.

The report shows that the failure to adjust income tax brackets fast enough to keep up with inflation, since 1977, has taken a steadily bigger tax bite out of the families that can least afford it. It also shows that what the government was giving low-income families through child allowances, it was taking back again through higher income tax payments.

The most recent set of figures provided is for 1982, when Yoram Aridor's "proper economics" was still riding high and subsidies for basic commodities were keeping low-income families afloat. It takes no great feat of the imagination to realize what situation these families are in now, after subsidies have been cut drastically since October.

The NII report has done a service in focusing attention on the plight of families who work for a living but do not have enough to live on. Action is required to rectify this unfair tax policy, which creates misery for families and a moral blot on society. But this is not a new policy — rather the policy of the government which Tami joined, supports and has kept in power.

## SAUDI KIDNAP

(Continued from Page One)

Christian East Beirut yesterday for fear that Monday's artillery duels between the Lebanese army and opposition Druse militias would continue.

In the event all the traditional fronts around Beirut were unusually quiet, with the only fighting reported from the largely depopulated Kharrub region on the Mediterranean coast 25 kilometres south of the capital.

At the presidential palace in Baabda, western ambassadors met to hear Wadie Haddad, President Amin Jemayel's national security adviser, explain the obstacles to the government's stalled security plan.

The ambassadors were from the U.S., France, Italy and Britain, the four contributors to the Multinational Force stationed in Beirut to help Jemayel extend his authority.

The security plan, which would disengage the country's warring factions and allow the Lebanese Army to move into new areas, came close to final approval by all parties last week but hitches emerged at the last minute.

The Christians have accused Syria and its Druse allies of wrecking the plan while the opposition National Salvation Front blamed the army, the Lebanese Forces and the U.S. contingent to the Multinational Force.

HOW MUCH does the government spend on settlement in the West Bank? No one, it appears, really knows.

As the debate over budget cuts continues, and as the Likud begins to hear rumbles from within its own ranks about cuts in services and the mounting unemployment in development towns, the demand for reducing expenditure on settlements in Judea and Samaria becomes more strident, and it would seem more irrelevant.

The Knesset is scheduled today to debate a motion for an immediate settlement freeze from two mavericks in the coalition, MKs Yitzhak Berman and Dror Zeigerman, and from the Shinui faction.

Several weeks ago, when finance minister Yigal Cohen-Orad began to talk of budget cuts, he disclosed that the 1983-84 budget for settlement was \$122 billion. His statement covers a multitude of sins.

Which budget was the minister referring to? Does it include that of the Defence Ministry, or was he talking only of capital investment or the costs of maintaining through subsidies what has already been built and the 30,000 settlers already living in Judea and Samaria?

And what of the \$122 billion? It appears that this budget estimate was based on a projected inflation rate of 60 per cent a year, and on an exchange rate of 1955 to the dollar. Sunday's announcement of the record 190 per cent inflation rate for last year makes those shkel estimates ludicrously irrelevant. A Hebrew University economist calculates that, based on a 160 per cent inflation rate, the figure Cohen-Orad disclosed would translate into \$470 million.

While the finance ministry divulged that only about one-third of this "\$122 billion" would be invested in the West Bank, the debate on the cost of settlement all too often jumps figures relevant for all settlement beyond the Green Line or for some combination of the three areas of activity — the West Bank, the Golan Heights and the Gaza strip.

Two weeks ago Yitzhak Rabin as-

serted that the annual expenditure was some \$400 million. He, too, was unspecific but insisted that his figures were based on reliable confidential sources.

The next day the chairman of the Ministerial Settlement Committee, Yuval Ne'eman said that only \$100 million had been set aside for investment in the West Bank and the Golan Heights.

Peace Now responded with the charge that the "direct and indirect costs of settlement were \$800 million a year under the current government."

Yisrael Harel, chairman of the Council of Jewish cities and Settlements in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza district, says that the current budget for the West Bank is under \$50 million.

WHICH FIGURES will the Knesset members use in their debate today? As the public begins to debate the issue in terms of its economic rather than its political costs, we may well wonder which figures are closest to the truth. It is doubtful that anybody is going to give us an accurate picture. But if Israel is ever forced to withdraw from the territories, no doubt, the government will be able to present an accurate bill for compensation to the American taxpayer, as was done after the withdrawal from Sinai.

Total capital investment in civilian projects between 1967 and 1981 was put at \$2.2 billion, and that was totally abandoned. The only thorough study of public expenditure in the West Bank has been undertaken by Dr. Meron Benvenisti's West Bank Data Base

creativity. And since music is an integral part of every national culture — a means of communicating without words — it is also an international language.

In this country, there is additional importance to the teaching of music. In Israel we are desperately trying to integrate a society made up of many dispersions, traditions and cultures, without losing the uniqueness of any of them. Through music education, one can nurture and develop different musical traditions and mould them into an independent Jewish-Israeli culture.

I shall never forget the words of a nursery school teacher who told me on a recent tour of schools throughout the country: "You know, this class is a heterogeneous one — but its music is homogeneous." These visits to music classes in all grades — from nursery schools to

and cannot rationally, be viewed as divisive.

JONATHAN KALMAN  
Jerusalem.

Susan Bellon comments: Jonathan Kalman seems to have missed one of the main points of the article, "Schools and Skullcaps," namely that previous Labour governments and Labour ministers of education also tried very hard to instill Jewish consciousness into Israeli schoolchildren. Their rescinding failure was not due to any lack of good intentions, but rather because religious sympathies, let alone practice, cannot be taught at school unless they are strongly reinforced by religious teachers and a religious example at home. Much the same situation prevails in these two key areas today, as it did seven years ago and the article suggested that today's ministry of education may have failed here simply because it was adopting an ideological position rather than a realistic goal.

Jonathan Kalman is entitled to his own brand of religious nationalism. But he should be aware that his are the views of a minority. There are two major tests of religious commitment in Israel: who people vote for and where they send their children to school. At present, the National Religious Party only garnered six out of 120 seats in the last elections (and all indications suggest that this figure is unlikely to be maintained) and only 19 per cent of the population registered their children for first grade in the state religious schools last year. The majority of the Israeli population has not yet voted for religious nationalism and until it does so, many parents will resent any infiltration of this into their children's school curriculum.

Sir, — Susan Bellon (January 6) regards Judaism as a poison and is afraid that it might be *reshalom* contaminate the children in our public schools. If she were to reflect upon and take a good look at the state of Israeli society today, she would perhaps realize that it is the secularism of our schools, with its dash of anti-religion, that is the poison that has contaminated two generations of Israelis.

RABBI MENDEL LEWITTE  
Jerusalem.

# The arithmetic of settlement

By DAVID RICHARDSON

Project. His soon to be published study notes that the official sources do not show any separate accounting for civilian expenditure in the territories.

The formula he used for calculating public capital expenditure was to use official data on actual uses and multiply it by the official figures on the cost per unit. The result indicates that the total public capital investment in civilian projects in the West Bank since 1967 has been \$1.5 billion (\$750 million under Labour governments between 1967 and 1973, and \$805 million under the Likud since 1977).

No data are available on the heavy military capital investment, and this often serves the settlement more directly than it does the immediate needs of the army. For example, the wide approach roads built to serve the settlements of Brucha and Ma'aleh Levona in Samaria were financed by the Defence Ministry although the army has no installations in the area.

As for capital investment, according to Benvenisti's calculations, some \$695 million has been spent on housing. (12,500 housing units have been built in all the various kinds of settlement. This does not include the cost of the land and the infrastructure beyond the borders of the settlement.) Capital investment in other sectors is as follows: industry and production, \$328m.; agriculture, \$55m.; electricity, \$15m. (120 km. of high tension line by the Israel Electric Corporation alone); communications \$15m.; roads, \$75m.; water, \$122m.; other and unknown (additional infrastruc-

ture, land acquisition, community services etc.), \$250m. The grand total for all this is \$1,555m.

Anticipated capital investment by 1986, based on the already announced plans of the World Zionist Organization Settlement Department and of various government ministries, would require \$625m. Since it was anticipated (before the crash of the bank shares and the current squeeze) that 40 per cent of this expenditure would come from private investors and developers, the annual public expenditure on capital investment would be \$375 million. This is almost triple the current rate of investment, and Benvenisti dismisses the figure as unfeasible. He estimates that the government is only able to invest some \$200m. per annum.

Not all of this investment is made in addition to investment in Israel proper. Some of it actually replaces capital investment that would have to be made in any case, he points out. The bulk of the planned expenditure in the West Bank (82.5 per cent) would be made in the metropolitan areas of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. Prof. Yoram Ben Porath of the Hebrew University's Falk Institute notes that much of the current building in the West Bank does not really provide homeless young couples with new housing but better housing for people who already have homes. He stresses, too, that the construction industry has traditionally been the major tool for budgetary cuts.

Benvenisti estimates that the regular budget to subsidize and provide the high standard of ser-

vices available in the territories amounts to between \$70m. to \$100m. a year. As examples, he cites the very low teacher to pupil ratio in the schools and kindergartens, and the cost per ton of collecting garbage for the Match Binyamin local council, which services 22 widely dispersed settlements. "The system is built on wastage," he says.

THIS WRITER, for one, is unable to digest statistics containing too many zeroes or using the words "million" and "billion" frequently. Nor can one translate the meaning of costs in moving quickly from shekels to dollars.

It is easier to cope with smaller figures and then build on them. For those who prefer yardstick economics, let us consider that it costs \$300,000 per kilometre to build a road. Between three and four new by-passes are now to be built to avoid problematic towns and refugee camps such as Dahariya, Dehaish, Balata, Tulkarem-Kalkiya, etc. They involve at least 30 kilometres of new road.

The cost per housing unit in the West Bank is estimated to be \$64,000. On this basis, the cost of providing housing for a new settlement would only be in the range of half a million dollars. Today the Knesset is to discuss a motion for a freeze on new settlements. The debate might well be misdirected if it is not pointed out that the government is committed to finance infrastructure for already existing settlements. Future investment for infrastructure is directed at metropolitan areas, which are originally sanctioned for development by none other than the Labour party.

Trying to attack the government's settlement policy on economic grounds makes political sense. But in terms of changing the country's economic priorities, it will take more than a freeze on new settlement to stem the flow of resources to the West Bank.

The writer is a member of The Jerusalem Post editorial staff who covers the territories.

## A plea for music

By EDNA SOLODAR

12th grade — have been a very exciting experience. I was astonished to see what dedicated teachers have achieved in integrated classes of children from both prosperous suburbs and slum areas, on mall

budgets which are slowly being eroded.

I DO NOT WANT to make light of the problem of scales of priority in education — especially today, when there isn't enough money for everything. Yet I fear that music education is in danger of being cut out altogether; if this happens, it will be society's loss.

Just what is in danger of vanishing? In 1976, it was decided that in state-supervised nursery schools, qualified teachers would give at least two hours a week of music or rhythmic for which parents would not be asked to pay. This decision is, unfortunately, being only partially implemented.

In primary school, up to sixth grade, children have one hour of music a week (during the Mandate, they got two). In higher classes,

there are provisions for a weekly music class, but the principal can decide which classes to drop from the curriculum for budgetary reasons — and music is frequently one of the victims.

In high school, music education is not compulsory. Certain schools have choirs and some even have orchestras, but their existence depends on the inclinations and initiative of principals and teaching staff. These minimal provisions are now all in danger, and many musicians and music teachers, only too aware of their lack of clout, are extremely concerned.

THIS CONCERN was strongly expressed during a panel discussion held at the Rubin Academy of Music in Jerusalem in mid-December, in which I participated. The director of the academy, Michal Smoira-Cohn, proposed that her institution should undertake to lead the struggle to preserve Israel's achievements in music education, to ensure that the subject is not allowed to be erased from the national agenda by default.

I know that it is not only music education which is in danger, but only music teachers who are likely to lose their jobs. But while the spotlight is being trained elsewhere, is it too much to ask that a small group be allowed to illuminate this small corner of our lives?

The writer is the Labour Alignment Representative, a member of Kibbutz Geshar and an accomplished pianist.

## READERS' LETTERS

### RELIGION AND EDUCATION

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir, — I was saddened, although not surprised, to see Susan Bellon pose the question as to whether "our children are in danger of being brainwashed by waves of religious nationalism" in her article on education (January 8).

The word "danger" is a strange one to find describing the influence of one's own religion. Its use might more reasonably have been expected in a question concerning brainwashing by, say, Moonies or occult groups, unless in Susan Bellon's view, Judaism is to be included in this category.

There appears to be an irrational fear pervading the article that, somehow, children within the state system might learn that they are not merely Israeli, but also Jewish.

Does it not occur to Susan Bellon that one of the major problems today in Israeli society is that, due to the educational policies of previous governments, many Israelis grew up with only a cursory knowledge of their Jewish background, which was indeed their personal history. This in turn, denuded of its religious significance, became simply a meaningless confusion.

From where should our nationalism stem, if not from its religious and historical sources? Zionism did not start with Herzl and Ben Gurion (without in any way denying their enormous part in its recent political past) and the socialist cadres of the kibbutz movement were not its only exponents. If our nationalism is to be felt, then it is suggested that the only legitimate source for it is one stemming from the 20th century secular root. If this is the case, then the logical implication is particularly worrying — that our entire claim to a nation in Israel is founded solely on the basis that Herzl et al thought it a good idea. This does not strike me as a particularly convincing argument, and, if this were the only reason, then perhaps we should quietly fold our tents and go away.

This does not of course mean that the teaching of general world or local history should be replaced by a purely Jewish aspect. Clearly the former is of vital importance in the educational process. But in order to achieve a thorough educational background and a semblance of self-knowledge, our own history and its religious centrality should not,

### REDUCING THE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS DEFICIT

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir, — The following short sentence buried on page 6 of your January 5 edition shocked me more than all the bad economic and financial news headlined on the first page during the last couple of months: "Tourism brought in about \$1 billion during 1983, half of the foreign currency taken out of the country by Israeli travellers." In other words, \$22 billion has been spent abroad by our globe-trotting lavish Israelis!

Here we are talking about cutting defence, education, health and social services just to save a "mere" \$600 million, crying about such trivia as \$9 million lost due to *sedevores* strike and other similar losses, which don't even approach the magnitude of the above mentioned astronomical amount of \$2 billion.

I am not suggesting interference with the *Wanderlust* of the Israelis, but where is it written that the amount they are allowed to take abroad has to be \$3,000? How about

### LABOUR LEADERSHIP

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir, — As a recent spectator at Yitzhak Navon's first public address at a Labour Party forum since leaving the presidency, I came away with the feeling that Navon has overplayed his hand.

His procrastination at entering the political arena along with his hesitancy to seriously discuss any of the major issues facing our country today, should surely make his supporters both in and outside the Labour Party think twice about him. To qualify for leadership, one should be more than just erudite.

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